

Buying panic as gold soars to record \$630

A lack of confidence in paper money, particularly the dollar, led to an unprecedented rush for gold yesterday, with the London market price closing at \$630 an ounce, up \$62.50 on the day. Dealers remained uncertain as to when profit taking would set in, bringing the price down.

Slump of confidence in paper money

By David Blake

Economics Editor

The great gold rush dominated the world's money markets yesterday. It even split over into London's West End as demand for sovereigns grew so intense that Barclays, the only bank which sells them over the counter ran out.

But as attention switched to New York from European trading centres, including London, where gold ended the day \$62.50 up to \$630.00, there was some easing in the price as dealers had a nagging suspicion that what has gone up so dramatically in the past month might start to come down.

The European buying panic followed Hongkong, where trading was so hectic that dealers suspended trading as gold broke through the \$650 barrier. By the end of Hongkong trading, as the European centres were opening, some sort of normality had been established. After an unusually protracted session to fix the price for London trading, the opening level was set at \$632.

Gold's rise reflects an almost total collapse of confidence in paper money, particularly the dollar, which is being hit severely by uncertainty about the situation in Afghanistan and Iran.

There was heavy intervention by central banks across Europe to try to prop up the dollar. At the end of the day, the intervention had limited the dollar's losses to only 0.1 per cent point, pushing its effective exchange rate down to 81.5 per cent of its 1971 level.

Concern at turmoil in currency markets

Sterling lost a few points against the dollar but its effective rate continued to rise. Its increase in recent weeks has come in spite of the stream of bad economic news, including the national steel strike. Its effective rate rose by 0.3 per cent point to close at 70.5 per cent of its 1971 value.

There are clear signs of growing concern at official level about the turmoil in the world currency markets.

The gyrations of the gold price were discussed at the first regular meeting this year of the West German federal bank's central council in Frankfurt.

The bank reacted when the effects of gold spilled over into the foreign exchange market.

Leading article, page 11
Rush for sovereigns, page 13
Financial Editor, page 15

Hundreds injured on the slide to work

By Martin Huckerby

A combination of ice, snow and freezing rain made the journey to work treacherous for millions yesterday, with hundreds of pedestrians injured and a large number of road accidents.

In London the Ambulance Service said it was their worst day for more than a decade. Sleek and rain froze into black ice on the roads.

The driver of a tanker was killed near Doncaster, Yorkshire, after the tanker, carrying sulphur dioxide, skidded and overturned. It took five hours to free his body with two 70-tonne cranes.

Although snowfalls caused particular difficulties in the north of England and Scotland, it was in the South and Midlands where the treacherous surfaces caught people most unawares.

The number of emergency calls in the London area was so great that during the morning the London Ambulance Service put out appeals for people to avoid using the 999 service unless it was absolutely necessary. They asked people with minor injuries to make their own way to hospital.

Instead of the normal 100 calls an hour, the ambulance service received 380 between 9.00 am and 10.00 am yesterday, mainly about accidents in which people had slipped and fallen, breaking arms, legs and ankles, or injuring their heads.

Hampshire Ambulance Service, which had 80 calls in four hours, said: "It's just gone mad. The number of calls we've been receiving is ridiculous. Most involved people injured in falls although there were more than 20 casualties from road crashes. There were seven people injured in one crash on the A27 Winchester to Petersfield road.

A coach with a party of mentally handicapped children was in a crash in South Nutfield, Surrey, but it is understood that no one was injured.

More than 20 cars were involved in an accident on the A3 at Cobham, Surrey, and Scotland Yard said there were 46 accidents on the London part of the A3 between 9.00 am and 11.00 am. Some sections of the A3 were closed, as were parts of the A10 north of London and the M40 in the Thames Valley. The police said the roads were unsafe to drive on until they had been salted.

In the Midlands, Derbyshire police said conditions were "horrible". There were at least 10 vehicles in an accident on the M1 near Chesterfield. "We have had to impose a 20 mph limit on the motorway. Even then it is almost impossible to stop."

West Yorkshire police said there had been "countless slow speed, multi-vehicle bouts". Elsewhere, roads in Warwickshire were blocked by jack-knifing in the icy conditions and roads were blocked by snow in northern Scotland.

Some trains into London were seriously delayed after freezing rain caused the brakes to ice up on several Southern Region trains.

The worst black ice disappeared during the day in many parts of the country, but the AA said that snow, slush and icy conditions were persisting in much of northern England and Scotland.

Trans-Pennine routes were only passable with care.

Forecast, page 2



Patriotic Front guerrillas arrive at a monitoring force base in Rhodesia to be received by British troops. (Report, page 5.)

Soviet envoy in 'tough' Downing St meeting

By Michael Hanfield

Political Reporter

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, had what was described as a "pretty tough" meeting with Mr Nikolai Lunakov, the Soviet Ambassador, yesterday over the Soviet Union's move into Afghanistan.

The Ambassador had requested the meeting to deliver a reply from President Brezhnev to the Prime Minister's letter protesting against Soviet involvement in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

It is clear from the fact that the meeting lasted 40 minutes that there was a strong exchange of views.

As he left Downing Street, Mr Lunakov told reporters: "The Prime Minister tried to defend her position, but I acted on behalf of our President and explained to her and the Foreign Secretary our position (the Press Association reports).

"I confirmed especially this fact: That we sent some limited military contingents to Afghanistan at the request of the Afghan Government. I categorically rejected some allegations made in this country, including by some of your colleagues in the media, about a so-called Russian invasion."

Mr Lunakov also said he told Mrs Thatcher that the Soviet military force would be withdrawn eventually from Afghanistan.

He will visit some other countries on the way, notably Oman and Turkey, and may also go to Saudi Arabia.

Lord Carrington wants to express British concern and assure the leaders of these countries that they can count on their friends in the West.

Letters, page 11

Russia accuses Britain of aiding Afghan rebels

From Michael Binyon

Moscow, Jan 3

The Russians today accused President Carter of making "delicose and wicked" statements about Soviet policy in Afghanistan, which he had "maliciously attacked" and "maliciously attacked" and meaning.

The Russians had also never hidden the fact that they would not allow Afghanistan to be turned into a base for imperialist aggression.

Tass accused the American Central Intelligence Agency, together with British and Chinese secret services, of training, arming and sending into Afghanistan "criminal gangs of terrorists—feudal landlords, moneylenders and other elements, who after the revolution lost the possibility of exploiting the Afghan people".

This, Tass said, "breaks all records for hypocrisy and lies". It said it was remarkable that the most high-ranking figures of the Washington Administration had joined in the outcry.

The strongly worded commentary by a Tass political observer, authorized at the highest level, referred to the television interview on Monday in which President Carter said: "Mr Brezhnev had not told him the truth about Afghanistan."

Tass did not mention this comment, but the savage tone of the article reflected Soviet anger at what the Russians consider a personal slur on their leader.

Continued on page 5, col 1

President Tito goes into hospital for check up

From Dessa Treviranus

Belgrade, Jan 3

President Tito has gone into hospital for a medical check up. Doctors said the examination would concentrate on his blood circulation.

The Yugoslav leader, who is 87, spent New Year's Eve with friends at his hunting lodge north of Belgrade. The check up is said to be routine and on the advice of his doctors, but the president was noticeably in pain and walking with a cane a few days ago.

Last month he was host to the traditional annual hunting party for diplomats and was reported to be in excellent health.

Leading article, page 11
Rush for sovereigns, page 13
Financial Editor, page 15

Axel Springer's elder son kills himself

Hamburg, Jan 3.—Herr Axel Springer, the elder son of the West German publisher of *Die Welt*, has committed suicide, a spokesman for the company said. Herr Springer, aged 38, held an editorial post in his father's national weekly *Welt am Sonntag* newspaper. He took his own life with one shot from a revolver last night in Hamburg.

He was divorced and had two children and was suffering from depression after contracting an unspecified ailment six months ago.—AP.

UK reserves up \$302m in December

Britain's gold and foreign currency reserves rose by \$302m (£136m) in December, reversing the four-month decline caused by exchange control relaxation and abolition. In 1970 official holdings of gold and foreign currency rose by more than \$7,000m, from \$15,694m (£7,056m) to \$22,791m (£10,215m). But, the figures exaggerate inflows into the United Kingdom and, because of the March revaluation, under value the gold holding. Page 13

Pleas to guerrillas

Lord Soames and two leading Patriotic Front military commanders have been broadcasting appeals to guerrillas to report to assembly areas in Rhodesia by midnight tonight. Page 5

Waldheim pledge

Iranians thrust their grievances upon Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, who dodged demonstrators at a Tehran cemetery and then heard 500 angry invalids, casualties of the revolution, blame the United States for their sufferings. He promised to try to help them. Page 4

'Vipers' at Foreign Office—Mr Powell

Mr Enoch Powell attacked the Government's policy for Northern Ireland and condemned the Foreign Office as "that nest of vipers". He said it had been a source of continuous hostility to Unionists for years. The remarks will be seen as a last-minute defence of the Official Opposition's refusal to take part in the forthcoming constitutional conference (Our Political Correspondent writes). Page 3

Indian poll deaths

Three Harijans, formerly known as Untouchables, were shot dead in an election clash in a village in Uttar Pradesh. It was the most serious incident of violence during polling in 244 constituencies in the Indian general election. The second round of polling will be held on Sunday. Page 4

Fire bomb alert

A fire bomb alert disrupted dealings on the Scottish Stock Exchange in Glasgow for 45 minutes. The Exchange was evacuated after flames shot out of the bomb as two men examined it. They were not hurt. The building also contains the South African Consulate. Page 2

Presidential rebuke for Italian minister

A despondent interview declaring that Italy's condition was so parlous as to be almost beyond hope, has led to a rebuke for an Italian minister from President Pertini. Professor Massimo Giannini, who deals with administrative reform, told a Milan weekly that the country's institutions no longer functioned and forecast that economically "1980 will be the worst year in our history". Page 4

Capsules banned: Tear gas "novelties" sold in joke shops judged to be capable of causing trouble at demonstrations or football matches. Page 2

Retrial ordered: Static electricity makes document stick to magazine exhibit so judge halts Nottingham trial. Page 3

Azores: New tremors shake islands hit by New Year's Day earthquake which made 15,000 homeless. Page 4

Australias: Ex-servicemen exposed to defoliants in Vietnam war said to have deformed children. Page 6

Home News 2-4 Business 13-18 Letters 11, 14 TV & Radio 19 European News 4 Court 12 Motorists 9 Theatres etc 6-7 Overseas News 4-6 Crossword 20 Obituary 12 25 Years Ago 12 Appointments Diary 10 Science 12 Universities 12 11, 16 Engagements 12 Snow reports 8 Weather 2 Arts 7 Features 6, 10 Sport 8, 9 Wills 12

The energy answer will not be a lemon

By Alan Hamilton

The news that a Kidderminster man has run a small electric motor for five months on the power of one lemon, revealed yesterday, has delivered the scientific community a shock calculated at slightly less than one volt.

Experts are agreed that Britain must find alternative sources of energy in the next decade.

Engineers at the Chloride group of Manchester, one of the leading companies exploring new kinds of batteries and electric vehicles, are sceptical of the claims of Mr Anthony Ashill, who says that his motor is still running although his lemon is black and shrivelled.

Chloride scientists, who have plugged in lemons under laboratory conditions, calculate that one fruit will produce sufficient electricity to power, at best, a digital watch. They estimate the output of one good fruit at 10 microwatts, enough for a tiny pulse.

Mr John Jones, of Chloride, said: "The lemon is a perfectly well known power source, and has long been used to demonstrate the principle of the battery to schoolchildren. Place one copper and one zinc wire in a half lemon, place your tongue across them, and the acid in the fruit will produce a very small shock."

On the scientists' calculations, it would take 10 million lemons to power one television set, and 5,000 million lemons to power a small electric vehicle, which would be far from large enough to carry that much freight. A rough calculation by Chloride indicates that to power these small electric vehicles would swallow the entire citrus production of Israel.

The problem is exactly that facing battery designers and delaying development of the electric car. Despite encouraging experiments with a sodium sulphur battery, engineers have not yet fully solved the difficulty of making a powerful energy source that is not impossibly heavy.

Lemon power is an unattractive option for the United Kingdom, which has no indigenous lemon groves and is unlikely to discover lush citrus groves under the North Sea.

Last year we imported 43,223 tonnes of lemons, enough to power 40 light bulbs, or four electric fires, at a cost of £10.5m. But it is a politically advantageous energy source, most of our supplies coming from the relative stability of the EEC or Spain.

But as one of the main areas of production is Sicily, it is conceivable that any future Organization of Lemon Exporting Countries could fall under the control of organized crime. The United States is, however, well placed, with large reserves in California.

Power from living things is a far from new concept. Galvani, the electrical pioneer, demonstrated the principles of the battery in the eighteenth century by using frogs' legs and vinegar. But for the present, nuclear energy is likely to remain the cheaper and technically less demanding option. And, the engineers point out, a small dry cell torch battery at 7p is still cheaper than a lemon.

The board remains confident that its contingency plans will be sufficient to meet all the consequences of the strike, though Sir Charles said the position would be "very tight".

There has been no change in the financial and contractual constraints placed on BSC by the Government, which is refusing to fund operating losses beyond the end of March.

The board yesterday deferred any decision on its plans to drastically reduce steel-making capacity in South Wales, but is expected to reach a decision by the end of this month.

Between 11,000 and 15,000 jobs are threatened at the two integrated steel-making plants of Port Talbot and Llanwern. Planks, regional developments and photograph, page 2

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STEEL STRIKE**Corby flying pickets going to ports to help enforce new union ban on movements of foreign steel**From Nicholas Timmins
Corby

Flying pickets from the Corby Steelworks, in Northamptonshire, are due this morning at the docks at King's Lynn, Norfolk, and Boston, Lincolnshire, to try to enforce a ban on the movement of imported steel from the ports.

The pickets, 15 to each port, were ordered to the docks yesterday by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation after 500 tonnes of Austrian and Dutch steel left the docksides at King's Lynn for the Midlands.

Later dockers at King's Lynn banned the flow of foreign steel from the docks on the instructions of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

With all steel production in the British Steel Corporation halted, the feeling among the Corby steelworkers is that they need to stop steel movements throughout the country to try to shorten a dispute that many fear could be long and bitter.

At the Corby plant, where 5,500 jobs are to go because steel making there is being stopped, the mood on the first two days of the strike has been one of grim determination, despite the prospect of unemployment for many only a few months away.

With the battle to save steel-making lost, they believe the 6 per cent pay offer is a slap in the face. Asked how long they will stay out, the pickets say: "As long as it takes".

Six thousand jobs will remain at the plant's tube works, where BSC is investing £45m.

Mr Robert Scorne, an ISTC

branch secretary in a section to be closed, said: "The strike is not for us. We are finished. It is for those who are left behind."

Mr Ivor Davis, aged 54, a locomotive man with 29 years' service, said: "We know the strike will do a lot of harm, but BSC has got no realise we can't be messed about."

"The people have still to go to a shop and buy a loaf of bread, the same as the miners, who have just got 20 per cent. And I cannot see the bakers giving you a cheap loaf just because you are on a low wage."

There is a strong feeling that the Government, after the miners' settlement, has taken on the traditionally moderate steelworkers as a soft option.

In the town feeling over the strike is divided.

Many of the wives are worried about the financial risks with redundancy ahead. Others are even more vehemently opposed to the pay offer than their men. But many of those not directly involved in the steelworks believe the steelworkers are cutting their own

Many of the women are worried that the strike will affect the £30m severance agreement signed last week, which will provide sums ranging from about £6,000 a year to more than £20,000 for a few skilled men with long service.

Mr Michael Skelton, ISTC strike coordinator, said the union had a categorical assurance from the management that the payments would not be reduced by the strike. He added that some of the 1,200 blast-

furnaces who had been going to work now agreed to join the strike.

Mr Harold Ford, BSC's Corby group director, said yesterday: "We made an agreement and we shall honour it. The only way we would not is if the strike went on and on and the corporation was utterly bust."

Public houses in the town are already beginning to feel the pinch, although most shops report that trading is still good.

For the long term they are surprisingly optimistic, partly because of the redundancy payments and because of the aggressive attitude of the district council and the Corby Development Corporation.

Those bodies, yesterday announced plans that they believe will bring 5,000 new jobs to the town by the end of 1982: about enough to match those lost from the steel works.

Our King's Lynn Correspondent writes: Mr James Bowman, the Dockers' Branch Chairman, said of the TGWU ban on lorry movement that from 1pm today no steel will come off the docks. "We asked the management not to agree to the movement of steel until we have a meeting with our district officer. The management agreed."

Mr Maurice Lodes, chairman of a King's Lynn shipping line and head of a haulage firm, said he hoped to distribute 400 tonnes of foreign steel to the Midlands today.

Imported steel means survival to the port of King's Lynn. A ban on it will have far-reaching effects for both dockers and lorry drivers.



Mr. William Sirs, of the ISTC, and Mr. Hector Smith, of the blastfurnacemen's union, at a London press conference yesterday.

'Jobs at risk' if imports are barredBy Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Britain's steel stockholders face the prospect of increased picketing by striking steelworkers. Intensification of picketing could quickly lead to supply difficulties for key steel-using industries that traditionally have bought supplies direct from the British Steel Corporation.

The move coincided yesterday with a warning by Sir Richard Marsh, chairman of the British Iron and Steel Consumers' Council, that many more jobs in industry could be at risk if foreign competitors were persuaded by British trade unions to take action over the strike. The move against stock-

holders was announced by Mr William Sirs, general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Union Congress said that about a fifth of steel used in the United Kingdom was imported. Sir Richard said that whatever the merits of the dispute with BSC, "it cannot make any kind of sense to place at risk the jobs of some four million trade unionists employed in the British steel-using industry who are not involved and cannot influence the outcome of the present dispute."

Elsewhere the effect of the dispute is being felt already. In South Wales the National Coal Board face severe stockpiling but the NCB has decided not to lay off any miners "for the time being".

Limited picketing of two stockholders, one in the North-east and another in Sheffield, is already taking place.

North-east battle to keep huge furnace burningFrom Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

One of the most critical features of the steel strike in the North-east is the effect is likely to have on the huge blast furnaces at the British Steel Corporation's Redcar works.

It is the biggest in Europe and ranks among the most modern in the world. It produces 10,000 tonnes of iron a day for steelmaking, employs 437 people, and had it not been for the strike would have produced 18 to 20 million tonnes of iron in the first five years of operation.

The BSC is particularly anxious to acknowledge the help of the National Union of Blastfurnacemen in damping down the furnace and in providing agreed manning levels to ensure that the furnace is not permitted to go cold.

The entire steelmaking effort in the North-east depends on the big blast furnace, which is the sole source of supply of iron for steelmaking in the region.

A BSC official said that the corporation did not have experience of a furnace of that size and therefore could not be absolutely sure what might happen to it.

Shotton strikers step up their picketFrom R. W. Shakespeare
Shotton

Picketing is being stepped up at the Shotton steelworks, on Teeside, Durham, and from this morning the strikers will be trying to persuade all employees, including management, "other than those holding special roles, not to enter the plant.

Yesterday a meeting of the craftsmen who are not in the dispute was held at the Shotton works. They

voted to continue working at least until next Monday, when there will be further national talks on their pay claim.

Since the steel strike began picketers have been attempting to stop every car arriving at the gates and this has caused traffic congestion for several miles.

The confusion could become worse today as the pickets ask to see passes that have been issued to selected workers making there by March with the loss of 6,400 jobs.

They were all right in me once the incident at the airport was over.

HOME NEWS**Children as 'pawns in NHS game'**By John Roper
Health Services Correspondent

Plans to rationalise child health services in Liverpool are inept, shoddy and incompetent, and an example of how the National Health Service perpetuates past mistakes, a report by two university lecturers said yesterday.

The report is an evaluation commissioned by health service trade unions of a working party's proposals which the new health authority will decide today whether to implement.

The authors, Mr Andy Alaszewski, a lecturer in health administration, and Mr Daniel Velleyman, a lecturer in applied economics at Hull University, conclude that children as patients are "little more than pawns in the game".

Their evaluation accuses the working party of basing its conclusions on false assumptions and says that, if implemented, its proposals "will not save money in the end cost the NHS millions of pounds".

Capital costs of the proposed investment were underestimated and revenue savings overestimated. The working party's sums were so poorly composed that the rationalisation proposed was in doubt.

Nothing has been learnt, the authors say, from the costly fiasco of the new Royal Liverpool Hospital, which cost £51m, far more than the original estimate, resulted in 210 fewer beds, but cost £1,200,000 a year more to run than hospitals it replaced.

The working party advocated substantial changes, concentrating all secondary care for children at one hospital, Alder Hey. Services now provided by three other hospitals would end.

The cuts, the authors say, are guaranteed but the developments were not. There was a notable lack in the working party's report of serious consideration of alternatives.

Apart from one item, the backlog of maintenance, the conversion of Alder Hey to a small teaching hospital had not been costed. Maintenance would cost more than £1m.

There was no provision in the working party's estimates for the cost of equipment. In its tables of changed bed allocations the working party had lost 20 beds. That means that after Harwell hospital closed in 1982, 20 mentally handicapped children would have no beds.

The working party, in the author's view, was dominated by medical consultants, and evidence was largely taken from doctors. Only one nurse gave evidence, and none was sought from other NHS staff.

A letter to Dr Vaughan saying that their commissioners who had taken over the running of the area had been dismissed for not implementing cuts in services

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HOME NEWS

Mr Powell attacks Foreign Office as 'that nest of vipers'By George Clark
Political Correspondent

In a trenchant attack on the Government's policy for Northern Ireland, Mr Powell ran through the course of events since October and contrasted the Government's open stance now with Mrs Thatcher's declared aims at the general election. She had asserted that her great object for Northern Ireland would be to maintain the union.

In saying that the union was now in greater danger than at any time since 1973, Mr Powell assured his audience that he did not have in mind the Provisional IRA. Appalling though their deeds had been, they had done nothing to shake the union. On balance, over the past 10 years they had strengthened it. The danger was from the Government of the United Kingdom.

That was the unambiguous substance of the political initiative announced on October 24, which was to have its first instalment at Stormont next week. The only possible consequence, and therefore the intended consequence, of that action, was to work towards the destruction of the union.

"Its thoughts are not of us. Its eyes and its affections are fixed outside the realm, on Dublin, on Brussels, on the Vatican, and above all on Washington, DC, for whose favour and delectation this province is to be offered up as a sacrifice if the arts of skulduggery will avail to do the trick."

Mr Powell said that the public had been reading lies about the American CIA recently. "One needs to be an innocent to be untrue, after all that has happened, so far as Ulster is concerned. The CIA, with its clumsiness and its crudities, has nothing to teach the Foreign Office."

"What bribes, what threats, what agents provocateurs, what corruption, what undercover agents can achieve, for that in Ulster you may put your bottom dollar on the Foreign Office."

In what will be seen as a last-minute defence of the Official Unionists' refusal to take part in the forthcoming constitutional conference proposed by Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Secretary

RUC reservist murdered in front of boy

A reserve policeman was murdered yesterday in the village of Newtonbutler, on the co Fermanagh border, in front of a boy aged 12.

Mr Robert Crilly, aged 60, was shot while working on a car in the garage he owned. The boy was helping him.

Police said a red estate car drove slowly down the main street and pulled into the garage forecourt. Two men got out and fired several bullets into their victim.

Mr Haughey axes planned £4m official home

Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, has scrapped a £4m project to establish a new Prime Minister's home in Phoenix Park, Dublin.

A Government spokesman said yesterday that the project had been called off because of the economic situation. The architects, Evans and Shalev, of London, will not lose the £6,000 prize their design won last year in a competition for which had been set for them.

Stormont's return urged by Official Unionists

From Our Correspondent Belfast

The Official Unionist Party, which has chosen not to attend the constitutional conference on the political future of Northern Ireland, due to open in Belfast on Monday, has submitted proposals to the Prime Minister which it believes would form a basis for the restoration of devolved government in the province.

The plan provides for the return of a single-chamber parliament at Stormont, with a range of powers in line with those assigned to Northern Ireland by the Government of Ireland Act 1920, and controlled by a Cabinet.

Safeguards and remedies against discrimination on religious or political grounds would be maintained as in other parts of the United Kingdom.

The proposals follow closely the convention report of four years ago which has been rejected by the Government and by the Labour Party.

The prospects of its being accepted as a working model by the coming convention are remote.

If anything, it would seem that the Official Unionist Party is taking a firmer line against power sharing than it did four years ago, when the proposal in the previous report was that the members of the committee would be drawn half from the government side and half from the Opposition, and that the Opposition would have at least half of the chairmanships.

It is now proposed that both committee members and chairmen should reflect the respective strengths of the parties in the House.

The party proposes that the United Kingdom Government should be responsible for the defence and security of the land frontier, air corridors and coast.

The power to raise revenue by taxation would remain at Westminster but the proceeds of taxation raised in Northern Ireland would be paid into the Northern Ireland Exchequer.

The memorandum says that the present system of local government is "undemocratic, uneconomic, insensitive, inefficient and bureaucratic".

It declares: "As citizens of the United Kingdom the people of Northern Ireland are rightfully entitled to have a local government system equally as democratic as that which exists in Great Britain."

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HOME NEWS

The 1949 Cabinet papers - 3

How Amethyst broke out of the Yangtse

By Peter Hennessy

The most heroic story in the newly released Whitchall files for 1949 is the daring escape of the frigate HMS Amethyst down the Yangtze river after being trapped for three months by communist troops advancing in the final stages of the Chinese civil war.

The Admiralty files contain vivid eye-witness accounts of the incident on April 20, 1949, when Amethyst was fired upon and forced aground. The high policy of the episode is also revealed in Foreign Office telegrams reflecting secret diplomatic efforts to free her. The master reached the Cabinet on April 26 and June 23.

Ironically, an extract from the Chiefs of Staff Committee, whose minutes are not yet available at the Public Record Office, Kew, was slipped inside the Admiralty file ADM 1/21508. It shows there was defeatism in high places about the chance of the ship making a dash for freedom. The minute for April 22 records: "Sir John Edelesten [Vice-Chief of the Naval Staff] told the committee of the latest developments in the incident in the Yangtze river. He said that thanks to a gallant effort on the part of Sir Edward Flynn, host, doctor with some medical supplies had now reached HMS Amethyst. The ship was now anchored a few miles up river from where the incident had happened. The main problem of what to do with the ship however remained to be solved. The hostile batteries were spread out along some 12 miles of the northern bank between her and the open sea... Although HMS Amethyst was heavily damaged she still killed although the remaining 40 of her crew now left on board could steam the ship, it was out of the question for her to run the gauntlet."

The initial assault on Amethyst had led to 17 men being killed, including the commanding officer, Commander John Kerans, assistant naval attaché at the Nanking Embassy, for which Amethyst was carrying supplies on a regular replenishment run, took his place.

Negotiations to free the ship dragged on fruitlessly. Conditions on board deteriorated. Food was running out and fuel

was so scarce that the fans could not be used to mitigate the stifling summer heat. Rats and mosquitoes infested the ship.

Commander Kerans decided to try to break out to the open sea 140 miles away before his fuel ran out. Amethyst's code books had been destroyed when the communists first opened fire for fear of them falling into their hands. Messages had to be sent in clear. How then, could Commander Kerans seek permission to carry out his plan?

On July 7, he signalled Admiral Sir Patrick Brind, Commander-in-Chief, Far East Station, asking what he should do in the event of a typhoon. Sir Patrick concluded he must be planning a breakout. He replied that "the golden rule of making offing and taking plenty of gear applies".

Commander Kerans now felt free to go ahead. The night of July 30 was chosen, as the moon would set shortly before midnight. The Yangtze was brimming with meltwater flowing down from the Himalayas and Amethyst could proceed at a greater speed with a good chance of clearing the constantly shifting sandbanks.

A summary of Admiralty signals makes it clear that their Lordships in London had no idea of the plan until the last moment. Lord Fraser of North Cape, First Sea Lord, informed Sir Patrick that a "breakout should not be attempted without reference" to the Admiralty. He replied: "Too late to stop Amethyst now."

After coming under heavy fire and clearing a boom at Kiangyin, 50 miles downstream, Amethyst reached the sea and sent the famous signal: "Have rejoined the fleet. No damages or casualties. God save the King".

George VI replied with a telegram to the crew preserved in the newly released files: "Heartly congratulations on their daring exploit to rejoin the fleet. Split the mainbrace. Tomorrow: The day the admirals saved the Royal Marines and the Wrens."

WEST EUROPE



Inhabitants of Terceira inspect the damage caused to their homes by the Azores earthquake.

New earth tremors hit Azores

Angra do Heroísmo, Jan 3.—

Light tremors shook two islands in the Azores today, causing panic among survivors of the New Year's Day earthquake which killed at least 33 people and made thousands homeless.

Inhabitants of Terceira and São Jorge, the two islands worst hit by the earthquake, were jolted out of their sleep early today by the tremors. But a Portuguese military spokesman said there had been no reports of fresh damage or casualties.

The Portuguese National Geophysics Institute said in Lisbon that the five tremors today were repercussions of Tuesday's earthquake, but added that there was no reason to fear another big upheaval.

The authorities in Lisbon said 33 people had been killed and nine injured in the earthquake. But United States Air Force officers at the Lajes air base in Terceira put the death toll at 52, with at least 400 islanders injured. Local hospitals said they had lost count of the number of injured.

According to the local authorities, about 15,000 people have been made homeless by the worst earthquake to hit the Azores in years.

Rescue workers are still searching through the rubble of Angra, many of whose houses were destroyed by the earthquake. Some of the villages destroyed on Tuesday can only be reached by sea and the authorities fear that the casualty toll may go up once rescue teams have managed to get through to the more remote areas.

Azores radio today said one of the newly-discovered casualties was the 43-year-old parish priest of the Terceira village of Santa Barbara who was buried in the ruins of his church as

he was ringing the tocsin to alert the villagers.

United States officials in Lisbon said American servicemen stationed at the Lajes air base were helping the Portuguese to clear roads and rubble and were sending medical supplies to the main hospital in Angra.

In the ruins of Angra, many of whose ancient monuments were destroyed, thousands were sheltering in Red Cross tents, barracks, schools and modern earthquake-proof buildings.

Portuguese Navy ships and Air Force helicopters are evacuating villagers from some of the least accessible coastal areas on the island of São Jorge, where more than half of the population of 7,000 has been left homeless.

The Azores, a string of nine islands halfway between Europe and North America, has frequently suffered earthquakes. In February, 1964, a series of seismic disturbances, which only ended in April 1965, led to the evacuation of part of the population of São Jorge.—Reuter.

Barre prospects improve after Giscard praise

From Ian Murray

Paris, Jan 3.—

President Giscard D'Estaing was receiving New Year wishes at the Elysée Palace all day today. The first to call were the members of the Government led by M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, who has been under a cloud since Christmas over his method of introducing the budget for 1980 which was ruled out of order by the Constitutional Council.

The budget debate resumes on Monday, with the Government already almost certain to use again Article 49 of the constitution to force the Budget through. This enables the Government to pass a Bill without a vote. The question, therefore, is not so much whether the budget will be passed but whether M. Barre will remain for long to implement it.

To judge by his friendly reception at the Elysée today M. Barre can expect to survive, at least for the moment. The President pointed out that there was no election due in the year, so that 1980 would be propitious for carrying out the work already undertaken.

He went out of his way to congratulate M. Barre. Thanks to his work, he said, France

was stronger than it was in 1974.

M. Barre said in his reply that the franc was stable, the purchasing power of the French people was being maintained despite the oil crisis, and industrial peace was general. The gloomy international situation, he said, was further proof that France could count only on itself.

M. Barre then went to the National Assembly to explain to the Finance Commission the measures announced yesterday to deal with the rise in energy prices.

The full cost of the new price rises for petrol, electricity and gas was revealed during the morning. Super grade petrol is to rise from 3.08 francs to 3.27 francs (36p) a litre, electricity charges by 10.8 per cent and gas by 11.8 per cent.

The Government measures include 7,500m francs worth of special credits for industrial investments over the next year to soften the impact of these rises. The Government is also to grant 150 francs each to families on low incomes, to old people and the handicapped to help them to face the effects of the price rises. These will cost the state an estimated 1,500 francs.

Nostalgia at funeral of Rudi Dutschke

From Our Correspondent

Berlin, Jan 3.—

Some 3,500 people today attended the funeral in West Berlin of Rudi Dutschke, the former left-wing student leader who died in Denmark on Christmas Eve.

Professor Helmut Gollwitzer spoke of Dutschke's passionate fight for peace on earth and of his devotion to socialism, and said he had been a radical but never a fanatic.

Though some of the songs during the funeral service reflected militant tunes, a touch of nostalgia seemed to hang over the crowd. They were mainly former comrades of Dutschke and students of the present generation, some with babies in their arms or small children on their shoulders.

The gathering at the Free University that followed the funeral was in striking contrast to the turbulent meetings of the 1960s in which Dutschke took part.

About 1,000 people marched to the Kurfürstendamm afterwards to place a plaque on the spot where an attempt to murder Dutschke took place in April, 1968. The head injury he sustained at the time led to his death 11 years later.

Portugal's new centre-right Cabinet sworn in

From Our Correspondent

Lisbon, Jan 3.—

President Eanes swore in Portugal's new centre-right Government at a ceremony in Lisbon's Ajuda Palace today.

Dr Francisco Sá Carneiro, the Prime Minister, said in a speech after the investiture that the electoral victory of the centre-right alliance headed by his party, the Social Democratic Party, sowed the unequivocal choice of the Portuguese people. His Government was after Portugal's long political crisis, the first to command an absolute majority in Parliament, he said.

The new Government's task was to transform social conditions and solve the many problems facing the country through "moderate and positive action". The public would be kept informed, Dr Carneiro said. He also promised that the country's problems would be solved "on a national and not a party basis".

A judicial inquiry into the affair was started in July by the forceful young examining magistrate from Caen, M. Renaud van Ruymbeke.

In a bitter series of letters written before he took his life,

M. Boulin strongly criticized both M. van Ruymbeke and M. Alain Peyrefitte, the Minister of Justice, for the way they were persecuting him over a perfectly honest deal.

M. Tourneret, a former close friend of the minister, has so far refused to talk in any detail about the land deal. Yesterday however, prompted by a persistent press investigation, he decided to claim that he had in fact returned the 40,000 francs paid to him by the minister.

According to a report in this week's edition of *Le Point*, the amount was paid into M. Boulin's private account in his home town of Libourne in cash the day after M. Tourneret's cheque for this amount had been cashed at Paris bank.

Details of the minister's bank account were requisitioned by M. van Ruymbeke shortly before M. Boulin's death, and it is expected that they will be made public in due course.

M. Boulin's widow has issued a statement saying that her husband was not the sort of man to receive presents and that M. Tourneret was not the sort of man to give them.

Gloomy Italian minister rebuked

From Peter Nichols

Rome, Jan 3.—

It never looked much like being a happy new year but most Italians, including a hard-pressed Prime Minister, might have hoped that a member of the Government would at least see the first week out before declaring that the country's parlous condition was practically beyond hope of redemption.

The offending minister is Professor Massimo Giannini who deals with administrative reform. His despondent inter-

view, published by a Milan weekly, brought an angry statement last night from President Pertini, who complained that the minister's statements were out of line with his own confident message for the new year.

He called on Professor Giannini to retract or resign. The minister claims that what he said was handled in such a way as to sound worse than he meant.

He said the economic problems of 1980 would be dreadful.

His companion escaped unharmed from the attack when a passing farmer diverted the monkeys with a bunch of bananas.—Reuter.

OVERSEAS

Carter rivals anxious to end political truce over Iran crisis

From David Cross

Washington, Jan 2

The unofficial truce among both Democratic and Republican contenders for the presidency to mute their attacks on Mr Carter's handling of the Iranian crisis seems to be breaking down as election year finally dawns.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, the toughest critics has come from the Republican side, with Mr William Brock, the party's national chairman, accusing the President this week of employing a "policy of deception" to use national unity on the American hostages in Iran to divert public attention from weaknesses in the Administration's foreign policies.

"It's time to take the gloves off," he told a reporter when he issued a new year statement on the coming political battle.

Mr Brock urged Republicans presidential candidates no longer to feel obliged to keep silent on anything except the specific question of Mr Carter's attempts to secure the release of the 50 hostages from the Tehran embassy.

The Republican candidates themselves are also beginning to air their frustrations at Mr Carter's domination of the political scene since the Iran crisis began two months ago.

Mr John Connally, the former Treasury Secretary and Governor of Texas, has recently accused the President of a "policy of inaction", while Senator Robert Dole of Kansas has said that Mr Carter bears "heavy responsibility" for the Iranian problem.

On the Democratic side, too, Senator Edward Kennedy and Mr Jerry Brown, the Governor of California, are growing increasingly restless at the self-imposed truce.

This past week and Mr Brown claimed that the President was using the plight of the hostages to help his own reelection campaign, and one of Mr Kennedy's assistants has made much the same point by attacking Mr Carter for indulging in "calculating politics".

The incident which has most irked the contenders for his throne was Mr Carter's decision to withdraw from next Monday's planned televised debate in Iowa where the first formal contest for presidential nomination

is due to take place later in the month.

The Democratic debate, which would have included all three of the party's candidates, has been cancelled, while television and the press as a whole have largely lost interest in the Republican match, which Mr Ronald Reagan, the front-runner, had, in any case, always intended to boycott.

Reports from the White House that the President has still managed to keep up with some of his campaign chores in spite of the crisis in Iran have also been a factor in encouraging his rivals to speak out.

A police party left for Shikhpura and nearby villages in western Uttar Pradesh to inquire into complaints that Harijans were being prevented physically by the Lok Dal from voting. Mr Charan Singh, Prime Minister in the caretaker government, heads the Lok Dal party.

A journalist who toured the constituency heard allegations of bogus voting. Some Harijans claimed that they were deprived of their ballot papers after being issued with them. At Kanjawala, near Delhi, Harijans had to vote in the presence of their landlords who entered many polling booths.

In Bhilai, Bihar, where 20 people were injured, one seriously, when Harijans were attacked to keep them away from the polling booths. A worker for Mrs Indira Gandhi's Congress Party was seriously injured in an attack in Alpha village, near Bagpat.

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Mr Reagan has adopted the same strategy himself although his excuse is probably not as good as Mr Carter's.

Certainly, this strategy has paid off handsomely in recent weeks as the President has gained popularity in the public opinion polls rise to spectacular levels.

The latest survey conducted in the middle of last month among Democratic voters shows that Mr Carter has made much the same point by attacking Mr Carter for indulging in "calculating politics".

But with the truce on silence now apparently over and growing impatience among the public about his inability to secure the release of the hostages, Mr Carter may now begin to see the upward trend in the polls reverse its direction.

Apart from these reported incidents, polling has been peaceful. But the turnout has been below 50 per cent compared with more than 55 per cent in the previous six elections. Voters' cynicism against politicians in general for an unnecessary mid-term election coupled with bad weather in the northern states is blamed for the anomaly.

The 244 constituencies which went to the polls in the first round of the election are spread over 18 states and all the nine union territories. The second round will be held on Sunday.

The main contenders are the Janata Party which won the 1977 election and the Congress Party of Mrs Gandhi, the former Prime Minister, the Lok Dal and the other faction of the Congress Party have an electoral alliance but are not hot favourites.

While Mr Morarji Desai, the former Prime Minister, was one of the early voters in Bulsar (Gujarat), Mrs Gandhi could not reach Delhi to vote as the Indian Airlines flight by which she was to travel from Calcutta was cancelled. Mr Charan Singh, who was campaigning outside Delhi, did not vote either.

Thais stop 'encouraging' entry of Kampuchea

Bangkok, Jan 3.—The Thai Government has abandoned its ambitious project launched in November, of temporarily accepting 500,000 Kampuchean refugees in centres set up in Thailand.

Thailand is keeping its "open door" policy of accepting all refugees arriving in the country but instead of putting pressure on the 600,000 to 700,000 Kampuchea refugees camped along the border to enter Thailand, the Thai authorities will now accept only those who have freely decided to cross.

They are also trying to arrange for border regions sheltering the refugees to be put under United Nations control and demilitarized.

This new Thai position was defined on Monday by Marshal Sithi Savetavadi, Chairman of the National Security Council, who declared that Kampuchea living in camps straddling the border would no longer be "encouraged" to come to Thailand.

A senior official of the Authentic Revolutionary Party, which Senator Guevara Arze leads, said the former President's candidacy in the elections was agreed by the party during the past few days.—Reuter.

AFGHANISTAN

Carter move to defer Senate debate on Salt pact with RussiaFrom David Cross
Washington, Jan 3

President Carter today asked the Senate to delay its consideration of the strategic arms limitation treaty (Salt 2) because of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

A statement issued by the White House said that "while the President continues to believe that ratification of Salt 2 is in the national security interest of the United States, he has concluded that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in defiance of the United Nations Charter has made consideration of the Salt 2 treaty inappropriate at this time."

The President asked that the delay should continue while he and the Congress assess Soviet actions and intentions. He has concluded that the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in defiance of the United Nations Charter has made consideration of the Salt 2 treaty inappropriate at this time.

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Today's Salt announcement is the second of a series of measures Mr Carter has promised to announce in due course to demonstrate his administration's displeasure at events in Afghanistan. Last night, the White House announced the recall of Mr Thomas Watson, the United States Ambassador in Moscow, for consultations in Washington.

The White House has, however, still not disclosed details of the other "unilateral actions and actions to be taken in conjunction with other nations" which Mr Carter approved during a meeting with his senior military and foreign policy advisers yesterday.

Outlining the reasons behind Mr Carter's request, a senior White House official said that the mood of the Senate was clearly in favour of a postponement of the Salt debate. It was impossible to predict when Senate deliberations on the treaty might go ahead and this would to some degree be determined by the future behaviour of the Soviet Union, the official added.

Paris politicians score points over Kabul coupFrom Ian Murray
Paris, Jan 3

The Soviet-assisted coup in Afghanistan has shown up acutely France's schizophrenic position in its relations with the Soviet Union and the United States.

The result is that despite the recognized gravity of events in central Asia, the impression is that the takeover in Kabul has been organized simply to provide politicians with more bricks to sling at each other.

There can be no doubt that President Giscard d'Estaing is extremely concerned at what he sees as the danger to world peace of what has happened.

Equally he still clings to the belief that detente has to be multilateral and that France has a role to play in bringing about a gradual cooling down of tempers. He is therefore anxious not to upset the Soviet Union.

The French Foreign Ministry was at pains to point out that the joint statement issued after the New Year's Eve meeting in London of representatives of the six western powers—the United States, Britain, France, Canada, West Germany and Italy—was couched in stronger terms than France would have liked.

The language of the statement, the Foreign Ministry said, was that of the American delegation and not of the others present, whose positions were significantly more prudent. All had agreed to the statement out of courtesy.

Thus while Britain and West Germany have declared their individual anger at the Soviet intervention, France has so far simply recalled its ambassador in Kabul in order to obtain his first-hand report of what has been going on.

The main French domestic interest in what has happened has, therefore, been the reaction of the Socialists and Communists to yesterday's invitation by the President to be briefed on Afghanistan by M Jean Francois-Poncet, the Foreign Minister.

This offer, made in keeping

West accused of 'frenzied ballyhoo'

Continued from page 1
If the United States and Britain had heeded these calls, an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity would have prevailed long ago, and the Government of the young republic would not have had to call for military aid.

The naming of Britain with America as the prime culprits reflects Soviet anger at the strong British condemnation of the Soviet intervention. Mrs Thatcher sent a letter to Mr Brezhnev and said she was "frankly puzzled" by the Soviet action.

The Russians have long identified Britain as the West European power they most dislike, but this is the first time Mrs Thatcher's Government has been accused specifically of aiding and training the Afghan rebels.

The article accused the West of deliberately suppressing news of the crimes of the rebels and of former President Amin. The Western media did not utter a word condemning the "fanatical bandits" who, Tass said, in their frenzy burnt villages, massacred whole families, gouged out the eyes and cut off the hands of Government activists.

Army needs fire power to protect 1,000-mile border**Islamabad seeks guarantees of assured US arms deliveries**From Richard Wigg
Islamabad, Jan 3

Asked how America's allies viewed the postponement of the debate, the official said they shared the Administration's very serious view of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. The responsibility for the postponement lies entirely with the Soviet Union, he added.

In spite of Mr Carter's hope

that Salt 2 can still be ratified by the Senate before this autumn's presidential election, this appears increasingly unlikely. The Soviet Union shows

no signs of withdrawing its

troops from Afghanistan in

the near future, and as the presidential election campaign here moves towards its November climax the Senate will be less and less willing to consider what has always been a highly controversial document.

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advisers yesterday.

The State Department dis-

closed today that the Adminis-

tration is still assessing Paki-

stan's need for additional mil-

itary assistance to enable it to

withstand possible future

aggression from the Soviet

Union.

According to reports reaching

the State Department, isolated

shooting incidents have now

ended in Kabul, the Afghan

capital, although fighting

appears to be continuing in

other parts of the country.

Viewed from Islamabad,

India has apparently still not

grasped the magnitude of the

change in the situation which,

perhaps, can only be mastered

by a rapprochement between

the two nations of the sub-

continent.

There has, evidently, been

some hard thinking here about

the Soviet Union. Basically,

the Russians have been told that

as long as their troops remain

in Afghanistan, there can be

no political solution between

the two countries.

But the Pakistanis are also

aware of the importance of

Soviet economic assistance,

symbolized by the Soviet-built

steel mills outside Karachi.

The Russian aggression in

the region has produced a very

complex situation for the

regime of President Zia ul-

Haq. It has left the American-backed Cento alliance in the wake of the collapse of the Shah's regime in Iran and, in order to get more in step with the Islamic world, joined last autumn the non-aligned movement.

Pakistan will now have to

explain to Iran that, faced by

the first Soviet invasion of a

Muslim country, it must

choose the means to defend its

sovereignty or be subverted

by the Soviet Union.

The principle of obtaining

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for there is a grim realization

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With the Indians having

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OVERSEAS

Gaza Arabs call on Egypt to return Palestine Bank funds

From Christopher Walker
Gaza, Jan 3

A group of prominent Arab businessmen are mounting a joint campaign against the Egyptian and Israeli Governments to force the reopening of the Palestine Bank, an important privately owned institution closed down 13 years ago when the Israeli Army captured the Gaza strip.

A strongly worded telegram was sent last week to President Sadat of Egypt requesting him to order the immediate unfreezing and transfer of the bank's cash holdings valued at about £500,000. These have been forcibly withheld by the National Bank of Egypt and the Bank of Cairo, where they were on deposit at the time of the enforced closure in June 1967.

"We see this as a vital test of the Egyptian Government's real attitude towards the Palestinian people," one of the bank's governors, Dr Hameem Abu Ghazaleh said.

"If they really believe that we should be allowed to look after our own affairs, they should give us back our money. Without it, the Israeli occupiers have the perfect excuse for keeping the bank shut, and preventing us from building up the economic infrastructure of Gaza."

In the present mood in Gaza of deep suspicion towards the Camp David agreements, no one is prepared to admit publicly that the latest moves to reopen the bank are connected with the improved diplomatic climate between Israel and Egypt. But political observers regard it as more than a coincidence that the telegram comes less than a month before normal relations between the two countries are due to be restored.

Of strategic symbolic, as well as commercial, significance, the Palestine Bank was the only big financial institution to have its headquarters inside the poverty-stricken Gaza strip at the time of the 1967 war. Many of the 450,000 Palestinians living in the overcrowded Gaza strip believe that the future of the bank's funds is being used at a political lever by Egypt. They claim that the Egyptian Government insists on withholding the funds as part of its attempts to persuade Gazans to join the autonomy scheme, and also in an effort to exert pressure on the Israelis into taking a more flexible attitude towards the aspects of the peace process.

There is ample evidence that the continuing reluctance of Egypt to unfreeze the assets has caused increasing anger among many leading Arabs in the region.

Dr Ghazaleh said: "The Egyptian attitude is ridiculous, because there is no question of them not being able to spare that amount of money. It just means that in Gaza we are now being squeezed by two adversaries instead of just one."

still carry out routine administrative duties in makeshift offices on an upper floor.

Last year, Dr Ghazaleh paid two visits to Cairo, and saw four senior Cabinet ministers in an earlier effort to free the funds. "All of them promised me that something would be done," he told me yesterday.

"But as soon as I returned to Gaza, I found that all the promises had been forgotten."

At the same time talks were being held with the Israeli banking authorities and the Gaza military Government as part of the effort to secure the bank's reopening. "A number of technical reasons were put in the way," Dr Ghazaleh went on, "but eventually the Israelis agreed in principle on the re-opening once we can show that Egypt is prepared to hand back the money."

It is known that the Israeli security forces were concerned about the possibility that the bank would be used to channel funds to Palestinian terrorist groups. For that reason, the military Government insisted that their bank's activities would have to remain under the administrative control of the Bank of Israel.

Altogether, the Palestine Bank has 1,068 shareholders who between them hold 300,000 shares. For the past 13 years, only those few who have been able to visit Cairo could touch their personal accounts.

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Leftist terror group kills El Al manager

Istanbul, Jan 3.—Vice-President Hosny Mubarak of Egypt left today on a 19-day tour of six countries that will take him to Washington for an expected meeting with President Carter.

Mr Mubarak, who met President Sadat of Egypt in Aswan yesterday, first headed for the Gulf oil state of Oman for talks with Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

The Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* quoted Mr Mubarak as saying that the talks would centre on the situation in the Gulf, mutual security and turnout in the Middle East. Oman is one of three Arab states which have supported President Sadat's peace initiative with Israel.

The same terrorist group claimed responsibility for the murder of an American serviceman and three American civilians near Istanbul last month. Four other people were killed in Istanbul yesterday and two in other Turkish cities—Reuters.

'Flying' drunkard

Recife, Brazil, Jan 3.—Airport police have arrested a drunken man of 24 who was sitting at the controls of a Boeing 737 airliner and trying to start the engines.

Vietnam defoliant blamed for deformed babies

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, Jan 3

One in four Australian ex-servicemen exposed in the Vietnam war to the defoliant Agent Orange have fathered deformed children, according to the first statistical study carried out on the subject.

The national average of one seriously deformed baby in every 1,000 is 250 times lower than the veterans' rate.

The study was carried out last week on 50 men who suffer from a variety of complaints which they believe were caused by contact with Agent Orange in Vietnam between 1965 and 1970.

The families of the veterans, all living in New South Wales, contain four children with deformed hands, including three cases in which all the fingers of one hand and half the thumb are missing, two with deformed legs, including one on a baby girl which had to be amputated, one missing ear, four cases of club foot and two of deafness.

The men are members of an association formed to press their claims for compensation against the Department of Veteran Affairs. The figures were collected by Mrs Jim Wares whose son was born with a deformed hand.

Mr Wares said the majority of the men, including himself, had not yet filed claims because they had not connected their troubles with exposure to Agent Orange until recent publicity brought it to their attention.

Of the men who reported deformed babies, 11 suffer themselves from extreme nervousness and 10 from a body rash

which has been accepted as being linked to Agent Orange, according to the study.

Mr David Walsh, biochemist who does research on foetal deformities for the Sydney-based Children's Medical Research Foundation, said yesterday the results indicate that "something stinks".

Included in the ex-service men's group were a total of eight gross limb deformities. Overall in New South Wales, only one baby in 2,000 suffers such deformity, Mr Walsh said.

The group's statistics roughly conform to those recently compiled in the United States where 77 birth defects were reported in the families of 538 ex-servicemen exposed to Agent Orange.

Agent Orange was a wartime code-name for a defoliant which is one of the phenoxxy herbicides containing dioxin. A phenoxypy type drug could often "bind" itself directly to the victim's genetic material, according to Mr Walsh. This effectively "put a knot in the rope" which could create kinks in the transmission of genetic messages from parents to offspring.

Mr Walsh said it had not yet been established how long dioxin remained in the bodies of those exposed to it.

A spokesman for the Department of Health said it would continue to "monitor evidence on 24/5/T" which is the Agent Orange ingredient containing dioxin.

The spokesman added that properly gathered scientific data would be required and the Vietnam veterans' statistics "really are not anything too terribly different from what we've now been hearing for some time now".

FOREIGN REPORT

The generals want a combined attack on terrorism in Turkey

Turkey's influential generals tried to obtain by dictate this week what years of patient goading by friends of Turkey had failed to achieve: to get the country's two principal political parties to sacrifice partisan interests for the sake of joint action to rid the country of terrorism.

For the time being, the generals are not power-hungry. They just want the politicians to break the circle of vendetta and revenge that swells the surging wave of political violence between extreme right and extreme left and is rapidly leading the nation to civil war.

The two extremes are in the minority. But because for years the two major parties, the Republican People's Party of Mr Ecevit and the Justice Party of Mr Demirel, have been unable to secure a parliamentary majority, the extremes have exploited this weakness.

Their violence has claimed an average of 25 lives a week in the last two years.

When the Conservative government of Mr Suleiman Demirel took over last November it was clear that unless it could deal even-handedly with both extremes, the terrorism would continue.

The left-of-centre government of Mr Demirel's predecessor, Mr Ecevit, had, in turn, been accused by the opposition of fostering rightwing terrorism.

The sudden flare-up of anarchy at the year's end triggered by the left to mark the anniversary of the Karamanmara massacre over Christmas 1978, has made the Government's task more difficult. The implication is that the militant left is out to destabilize the regime.

The direct objective of this sudden show of force would be to stop rightwing terrorism from becoming firmly entrenched as key posts of the new administration once again. But a longer term target could be to upset Mr Demirel's chances of bringing temporary relief to the crippled economy, because this would enhance his popularity and improve the prospects of a clear majority for his Justice Party in the next general elections.

The truth is that after Mr Demirel has firmly proposed the replacement of many senior officials throughout the country. In view of strong suspicions that under the Government of Mr Bulent Ecevit, the state machinery was heavily infiltrated by leftwing activists the new incumbents could hardly be expected to be sympathetic to the left.

Major changes in top civil service posts

are inevitable after every change of

Government in Turkey. But this time Mr Demirel invoked the problem of anarchy to reshuffle the state services more drastically than usual. This touched off strong protests from the middle and lower-ranking officials, triggering punitive raids by rightwing thugs in Government offices where the objections had been loudest.

Mr Ecevit whose "Republican People's Party" gave up the Government in October after a heavy defeat in the mid-term elections, says: "To wipe out anarchy in the army.

The roughest task facing this government, however, is the urgent need to depoliticize the police force which has been deeply infiltrated by rightwing and left-wing trade unions. Turkey's two major parties agree that this should be done as soon as possible but, obviously, there disagree on the definition of "depolitization".

Many Turks, therefore, say it is time to set up a police special branch, with its own first-class intelligence network to deal exclusively with terrorism, possibly with the help of Scotland Yard which Mr Ecevit brought in to advise the Turkish police.

Mr Ecevit, the opposition leader believes that political violence is inexorably linked with the country's rapidly changing social structure and its faulty economic growth. The use of non-democratic methods could have speeded up economic development as it did in most backward countries, but in Turkey, he says, it would have backfired.

The Turks are profoundly egalitarian. They have known no aristocracy and no slavery. Until the early 1930s we did not even have surnames. These were introduced just for bureaucratic reasons", he said.

"Therefore, no Turk can regard poverty as his unavoidable destiny when he can see others getting rich. And Turkey's economy did not encourage the development of an egalitarian society in recent years."

This sense of frustration and injustice combined with the neglect of rural areas where three-fifths of Turkey's population live, and a prodigious birth rate of 3 per cent, have led to monstrous urbanization.

The overpopulated cities are girdled with slummy shanty towns where the extremists on both sides can easily recruit desperadoes in a country where one in five is unemployed.

Another aggravating factor is the urge the Turks feel to possess a firearm. "Machismo" is at the root of this urge, of course, but it also makes for a flagging sense of security in the countryside.

Now, for the first time, the Turkish authorities are turning their attention to gun-running operations, involving millions of dollars, which involve influential gangs with international ramifications. Turkey is currently negotiating agreements with neighbouring countries on the prevention of smuggling across the borders and has tightened surveillance along the extensive coastlines.

time-consuming procedures which create an impossible backlog of cases.

The favourable part and parcel of a series of law-and-order decrees held up in the National Assembly by Mr Ecevit's objections, an obstruction heartily resented by the army.

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Mario Modiano

Egyptian leader will call on Mr Carter

Cairo, Jan 3.—Vice-President Hosny Mubarak of Egypt left today on a 19-day tour of six countries that will take him to Washington for an expected meeting with President Carter.

Mr Mubarak, who met President Sadat of Egypt in Aswan yesterday, first headed for the Gulf oil state of Oman for talks with Sultan Qaboos bin Said.

The Cairo newspaper *Al Ahram* quoted Mr Mubarak as saying that the talks would centre on the situation in the Gulf, mutual security and turnout in the Middle East. Oman is one of three Arab states which have supported President Sadat's peace initiative with Israel.

The same terrorist group claimed responsibility for the murder of an American serviceman and three American civilians near Istanbul last month. Four other people were killed in Istanbul yesterday and two in other Turkish cities—Reuters.

The truth is that after Mr Demirel

merely proposed the toast to the bride and groom at the wedding of his youngest daughter but after the celebration was over he had to return to Johannesburg and report to the police.

Earlier in the month, the Rev David Russell, a Cape Town Anglican priest, travelled several hundred miles to Johannesburg where he addressed the Anglican synod and received tumultuous applause.

Not a word of what he said was reported in the South African press.

On his return to Cape Town he was served with a summons to appear in court late in January on two counts of breaching the order which restricted him to his home area of Wimborne.

The two incidents have brought into focus the plight of the banned 1,358 people who, according to figures compiled by the South African Institute of Race Relations, have since 1950 been proscribed by the state as non-persons.

Under a banning order a person may not, unless special

permission is given, attend any dents, lecturers, writers and journalists, both black and white.

The reasons for bannings are usually not made public, nor is there any provision for a banned person to offer any defence against unspecified charges.

When he stepped down as Justice Minister last June, Mr Kruger said: "I have tried to exercise whatever power the statute has given me with great humanity." Banning orders and detention without trial (according to the Institute of Race Relations 2,700 people were detained without trial between 1976 and September 1979) had all been justified "on the basis of information received".

It is difficult to keep an accurate tally of the number of people at present banned. Notices announcing new banning orders and the expiry of others appear regularly in the Government Gazette, but frequently people released from prison after serving sentences for political crimes, or after being detained without trial, walk straight into a banning order.

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Among the legion of the banned, Mr Breyer Naudé, aged 64, is a rather special case. As a respected son of the Afrikaner establishment he rose through the ranks of the Nederduits Gereformeerde Church (NGK) to moderate of the NGK's Southern Transvaal synod.

Recently eight NGK leaders have called for the restrictions

on Mr Naudé to be lifted "on humanitarian grounds".

The reaction among other church leaders led to a demand that all banning orders should be lifted. In 1980 a judicial commission will examine all of South Africa's massive arsenal of security legislation and one of the country's leading law professors, Dr J. D. van der Vyver, has urged that it should give serious attention to the purpose

NTS

ENTERTAINMENT

ADVERTISING

TELEVISION

MUSIC

LITERATURE

ARTS

FILM

THEATRE

COMICS

GAMES

CRAFTS

FOOD

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HOLIDAYS

TRAVEL

CARDS

GIFT

TOYS

GARDEN

HOME

GARDEN

SPORT

Tennis

Nastase may yet pay for his lapses

By Rex Bellamy

Tennis Correspondent
Viktor Fibak and Tom Okker, a Czech and a Dutchman respectively, are regulars in tournaments who are always looking for something interesting to do. They play tennis in the same way, adding a joyous flair and a propensity to their discretion and discipline. In the Brannif Airways doubles tournament at Olympia their tactic for Olympia has been indicated to excess: they have won their matches but the six sets to go their way have all been decided in tie-break games. Cliff-hanging decisions have been three times a day is overdoing it.

Yesterday they beat Christopher Nastase and Ilie Nastase, 7-6, 3-6, 6-4, 6-5, in three hours. Mind you, a lot of points are put into the rules of tennis these days and Nastase tends to invent a few of his own. Fibak and Okker are too good to be left unchallenged to allow Nastase to upset them. But Okker did get rather cross about what he considered to be weak unpinsing. "I don't care what Nastase does, but the umpire has to be tough. He must control the match."

Fibak made another sound point when he said that Nastase was probably a wimp. He was unlikely to be disfigured this way if an umpire is going to go to such lengths and that the penalty point system was the best way to deal with behavioral problems. This system imposes strict penalties of points, games and possibly the match itself. It has been more effective than any other method of discipline but is not used by World Championships Tennis, who are promoting the Olympia event.

Michael Davids, the WCT executive director, said he was not yet satisfied the players deserved the system but the critics had understood it. John McDonald, the tournament director, said the umpires should be able to "handle" such situations and the WCT had a meeting of tennis players by withholding prize money. He would consult the tournament referee and the umpires' manager about Nastase's behaviour.

Nastase and Nastase are playing their first tournament together. They have only three sets to show from two good performances against tough opposition but the



It rained indoors as well yesterday: Mottram and Nastase supervise mopping up to ensure no slips-ups on their side

blend of Mottram's solid percentage tennis and Nastase's agile volleys has been impressive. They should continue to be encouraged. This is hardly the easiest of tournaments for a new team.

In yesterday's first set they were tied four times and had five break set points. They

won the second and were twice a break up in the third. The score was the fact that Nastase's serving and volleys lacked authority when he was most needed. This was a fine match illuminated throughout by the brilliance of Fibak—notably in the shrewd judgment and delectable touch of

his finesse in the forecourt. Bob Hewitt and Trevor McMillan, who had played well on the day, were unable to manage to shake the hold of Fibak and Okker, moved into a slightly higher gear in beating Peter Fleming and Tomas Snid, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4, in two sets and 20 minutes. What distinguished Mottram and McMillan are they. They first won Wimbledon in 1967 and they still play the same way, though McMillan suspects they may not last in service returns quite as well as Hewitt and McMillan. Their match with Mottram and Nastase in the first game of the third set and jumped back into the driving seat.

They see openings where others see nothing. Opponents spend a lot of time bending and lunging for which Mottram and Nastase shot. Fleming and Smid were a rather tiresome setback on the brink of victory. The crus came in the next game! Snid lost his service while he and his partner were still savouring their respite. Mottram and McMillan needed no more chances.

SINGLES ROUND: N. Ressner and S. Stewart (US), beat T. Mottram and S. Snid (Australia) 6-1, 6-1.

SECOND ROUND: P. Fibak and T. Okker (Czechoslovakia) beat P. Fleming and T. Snid (US) 6-3, 6-2.

THIRD ROUND: M. Mottram and N. Nastase (Romania) 6-2, 6-1; P. Fleming and T. Snid (US) 6-3, 6-2.

FOURTH ROUND: P. Fibak and T. Okker (Czechoslovakia) 6-1, 6-0.

Mrs Lloyd wins the points that matter

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

Sydney, Jan 3

Further heavy rain, which continued until lunchtime today, by now had lasted for 36 hours, but the impact of the downpour sponsored by Colgate Martina Navratilova and Evonne Goolagong had earlier costed to easy victories in the women's tournament. No one knows now how, when the match starts, the pitch will play. Having been uncoaxed into action, moving it seems to be beyond the control of the umpires, or for refusing to play to a "circle rule" which both sides have adopted. Who now have

had experience of England have not. Nor have the likes of Trueman and Greig helped by their recall on Saturday. What is needed is a sensible decision. West Indies have

A week ago, when looking ahead to tomorrow's game, the English party expected Australia to play straight from a five-day match in the Melbourne sun. Instead of which, Australia were beaten by West Indies on Tuesday, in three sets, the last of which was a plenty of rain. West Indies were also hoping for a dry pitch during dusty—which is now unlikely because of the rain. When considering the 19 players to represent the English team last year, Mrs Austin romped to victory in only 50 minutes again: Miss Turnbull, who never came to terms with a series of flat, crisp backhand cross-court ground strokes, was the only one to give Mottram and Nastase a chance to move to a 2-2 lead.

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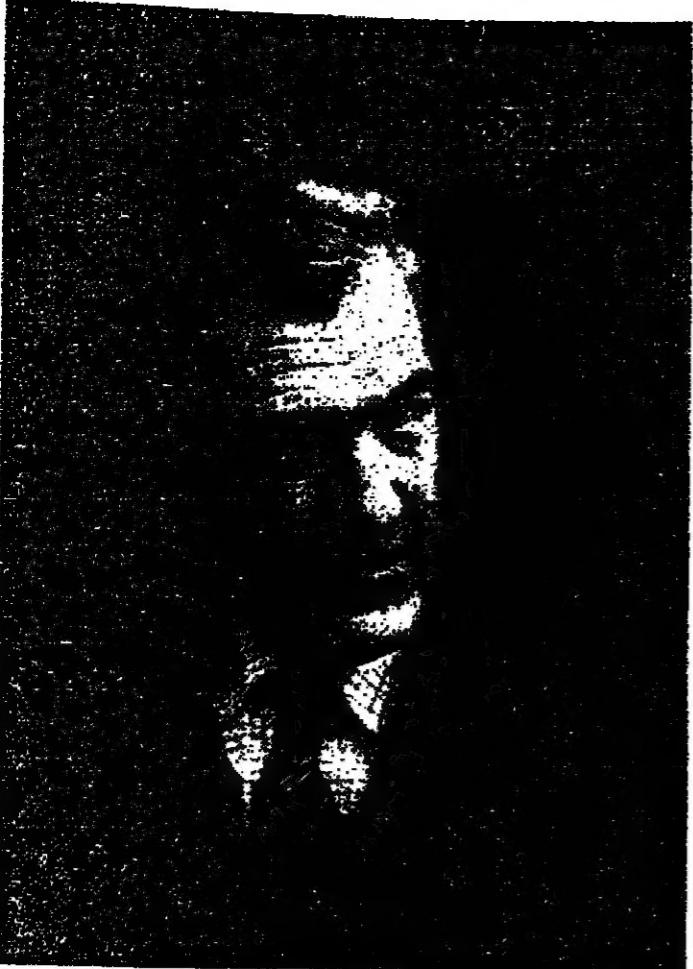
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SPORT

Golf



A day when enjoyment came after the golf

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

It is not uncommon in the early rounds of the President's Trophy for the weather to take precedence over the golf. Yesterday the first round of this maelstrom-like contest was such a day. Heavy rain turned the stiff grasses mingled with the frost in the ground, producing unpleasant, uncertain conditions in which enjoyment was confined to the interior of that besieged fortress, Rye clubhouse.

The first round contained some interesting matches, a repetition for example of the 1964 final between Donald Steel and Michael Ainsworth, a repeat for the holder and 1976 winner, Michael Reece, against Michael Grint and Clive Edington's match against Andrew Swanson, a former winner. But as the weather got worse it became impossible to take the golf seriously and anyone doing so would be excused for making a glorious comeback. In such conditions defeats do not have to be explained or excused and pride of place goes, instead, to the eccentricities of the game.

Notable among them yesterday was the hammer and four inch

ball with which Dr Bruce Webster,

having missed his first test, armed himself as his punishment against being unable to force the tee peg into the ground by hand. By the end of his match he might well have preferred to have furnished himself with a sponge or a mop, for the rain became trapped on top of the half frozen ground and Webster made one of his rare appearances at Rye. Webster's foresight may be said to have been rewarded for he recorded his first victory, over D. E. Simons, in the tournament, although his appearances have been limited to the last half dozen years.

Some cases depended as much on anything on becoming proof against the weather. Grint for example in defeating Reece somehow contrived to keep his hands dry and warm which helped him to find his touch on the greens and to avoid the grosser errors in the long game. Grint also at the 10th, which he birdied and then nearly bogeyed up, Reece came back at him, but with four holes to go, missed a chance of reducing the gap to two.

Grint finished him off by putting in from off the green for his third. It has to be remembered that for a ball to stay on the green at a short hole was generally considered rather than the rule, and this was specially true of the seventh hole where this match finished.

Grint is familiar with links golf for he plays mostly at Rye and has for years been a Mertholtonian stalwart in the Halford-Bewitt. Surprisingly, he has yet to make much impression in the winter months. Ainsworth avenged his defeat at the hands of Steel in the delayed 1964 final. Both have played so many matches over much the same period in this event that it is surprising that they had met only once before yesterday. Ainsworth got his nose in front by winning the third and fourth in four and became two up at the eighth with another four. He won none of these testing holes easily and the match was distinguished by his fine strokes.

At the time greens, which had

been frozen hard, were beginning

to melt after the rain had stopped.

Ainsworth was quicker to adapt

himself to the treacherous and

odious conditions. Clive Edington,

runner-up in 1976, had a sight

advantage round the greens, over

in the subsidiary event.

Swanson, having found a place in the draw only after a last minute scratch by E. H. Chapman, Another former winner, Robin Biggs, was rather surprisingly beaten by Alex Aldrich-Blake. Biggs has been playing his golf on the well saturated turf of Hoylake and in the early morning, before the rain became heavy, he could play. In the afternoon, in the frozen conditions, Aldrich-Blake was helped by a two at the ninth where he drove to the front of the green and then, after securing a half against the run of play at the 10th, took the lead with a birdie at the 11th.

One of the longest victories of the day went to John Uzelli who drove well and managed to keep the continuous rain off his glasses. His victim by seven and six was Brandon an American and a recent Oxford Blue, who has flown out from New York. Uzelli was out in 37 and Brandon was lucky to change to be here from that. Brandon is not the first American to brave the elements in this event, and he can draw comfort from a predecessor, Sandy Tatum, president of the United States Golf Association, who after an early defeat in the amateur went on to enjoy himself enormously in the subsidiary event.



Photographs by Harry Kerr

... hard as nails, as Dr Bruce Webster found on his round. Hammer and nail were handy irons for teeing in the frost.

Still falls the rain. The face at the clubhouse window is that of Nigel Philcox as he runs an eye over a Rye wet and ...

Racing

Sandown to get another chance today

By Michael Phillips

Racing Correspondent

Sandown Park may stage the first race meeting of the New Year this afternoon. Today's card at Haydock Park was abandoned yesterday and tomorrow's depends on whether inspection today.

After winning round Sandown Park yesterday afternoon the stewards decided to make a further inspection at seven o'clock this morning, before deciding whether racing there is possible today.

The course was still not fit for racing yesterday but there was a lot of rain and there is a chance of racing today if the draw continues. A jackpot pool of £2,584 has been carried forward to

Sandown Park as Haydock Park is off. The racing on picnics and two divisions of the Metropolitan novices hurdle may be won by Fata Morgana and Ancient Briton.

Fata Morgana (16) beat Jugador by four lengths at Nottingham before going down by a neck to Brickhill Hotel. The form is good. The form is good for the horses who have been provided with two pacemakers to exploit any chance in the favourite's armour. As Bustino swept three lengths clear entering the short Ascot straight, Grundy had it all to do. The memory will never fade of the race in which Grundy showed first the speed to overtake Bustino and then the courage to hold on to his narrow lead as Dick Hera's four year old fought back. No wonder the champion's reserves had been exhausted and that he gave his best to the last running against Dahlia in the Diamond Stakes and Hedges Gold Cup, a double victory.

Major H. H. has just been awarded the CVO in the New Year's Honours' list. No honour could be more richly deserved. His integrity, honesty, industry and skill have been a byword for over 20 years. He is a man I like to think of as a friend. But he is undoubtedly touchy about Troy, whom he considers, together with Brigadier Gerard, to be the best horse he has ever handled. He cannot have liked it when Troy was assessed at only 95 by the judges, a length behind Brigadier and the handicappers. Now 100 is the mark allotted to a very good horse and the last colt to be given that weight was Alleged after his second Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe victory in 1978.

There is an admission that Troy

did not give his best in the second day running.

Sandown Park programme

1.0 METROPOLITAN HURDLE (Div 1 novices : £834 : 2m)

2.0 STANLEY CHASE (Amateur handicap : £1,674 : 3m 118yd)

3.0 CARDINAL HURDLE (Handicap : £1,421 : 2m 55 75yd)

4.0 LONDESDOROUGH CHASE (Handicap : £2,043 : 2m 68yd)

5.0 STYLING CHASE (Amateur handicap : £1,674 : 3m 118yd)

6.0 NIMROD CHASE (Handicap : £2,043 : 2m 68yd)

7.0 CANTERBURY SPECIAL (Handicap : £2,043 : 2m 68yd)

8.0 NIMROD CHASE (Handicap : £2,043 : 2m 68yd)

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As Sir Ian Gilmour announces his plans to settle our EEC deficit...

A £1,000m mission to Europe

Sometime today Sir Ian Gilmore, Lord Privy Seal, is to announce his plans for visiting European Community capitals as part of the Government's Euro-strategy to square the circle with our EEC partners over Britain's contribution to the budget.

His first call will be to Rome next week when he meets Signor Francesco Cossiga, the Italian Prime Minister, who is also President of the Community.

Sir Ian will state that he hopes to complete his European mission within three weeks, the aim being to get a general agreement from all other members that there should be an early European summit in February to thrash out once and for all Britain's £1,000m deficit contribution to the Community funds. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, who is also part of the same exercise, will take a different route and will not visit all the capitals.

What they will be saying, however, will be much the same thing, and it is the style which is going to be as important as the substance. The abrasive tone, as seen by our European partners, adopted by Mrs Margaret Thatcher at the Dublin summit, is being scaled down. Though the purpose still remains the achievement of a broad balance between pay-

ments into and receipts from the EEC funds, diplomacy, judging by the signals emitted from Whitehall, rather than dogma, is to be the essence of the approach.

The Foreign Office, and that means ministers as well as officials, never really fully approved of the combative approach to the Dublin summit as a means of settling Britain's justified complaint. It was clear there was a subtle difference in the decibel level of noise coming from Downing Street and King Charles Street.

Mrs Thatcher, as she leads Britain into the eighties, may have thrust her personality on to our European partners, but the reaction has not always been favourable. The West German daily newspaper *Die Welt*, declaring that "there has never been the slightest doubt about the unswerving resolution and certain decisiveness of the woman", has just nominated her as Woman of the Year. In France however, an opinion poll conducted by *L'Express*, showed the impression that the Labour government did the best it could when it renegotiated the Treaty of Rome in 1975 and that the real trouble lies elsewhere. The Prime Minister's finger points in the direction of the Heath government, of which she was a cabinet minister, and the terms negotiated for Britain's entry into the European Community. "Let's face it," said one of her advisers in a candid mood. "Europe is our Achilles heel."

Among her own party, the MPs at Westminster and members of the European Parliament, there are differences of

interpretation of the Prime Minister's real commitment to the EEC. (Nato and the defence of Europe, of course, is a different and not wholly directly connected matter.) Some of them put their disillusionment politely, describe her attitude as an agnosticism or a par with Mr James Callaghan's.

The comparison goes deeper than appears at first sight. It was one of her closest supporters, in a revealing moment, who privately drew attention to the fact that in all the arguments before and after the Dublin summit Mrs Thatcher was inclined to pull her punches with the Leader of the Opposition over the European issue in the customary points scoring exchanges across the Commons dispatch box.

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Mr Heath, picking up the hints, has had his own say on

this matter. He has expressed the view that the seriousness with which the British treated the budgetary problem would have been more credible to our partners if we had put forward specific proposals for more Community spending in Britain "yet to my knowledge no such proposals were put forward either at the Dublin summit or since".

The indications now are that it is in these areas that Sir Ian and Sir Geoffrey may make further explorations, but there are fundamental problems involved here which could run counter to the Government's overall economic and financial strategy.

Community increases in social and regional aid, for example, would have to be channelled through our exchequer increasing the volume of money in the economy and also, in some circumstances, leading to increases in public expenditure.

While monetarism holds sway in government, there are other thoughts being developed among ardent European Tory MPs at Westminster. Shortly before the Christmas recess a number of them had a series of sessions analysing the meaning that lies behind the Brandt commission report (so named because Herr Willy Brandt is a member) which coincidentally, is to be published in February,

about the time of the proposed European summit.

The commission was created at the instigation of the World Bank in 1977, and its report is entitled "North-South: a programme for survival". What it will propose, among other things, is a large transfer of resources from the less developed countries to the industrialized nations. Part of the argument for helping these areas by stimulating growth is that it will also help to head off a world recession.

It is a policy which has been applied on a national basis since the Second World War until latterly, and it was a Conservative MP who succinctly spelt out its implications: "It is Keynesianism on an international scale and it has to be the way forward", he said fervently.

He did not have to state that it was Mr Heath who helped to draw up the report, but the gravamen of his message was distinctly clear. Other countries in Europe are more likely to take note of its contents than the British Government in its present mood. There is little doubt that he and others will be working for a change of attitude from the moment Parliament returns the week after next.

Michael Hatfield



Student doctors confront strikers at Charing Cross Hospital.

photograph by Brian Harris

Hospital strikes: how far can volunteers go?

There are fears
that using
volunteers as
strike breakers
will jeopardize
the trust that
has built
up between
voluntary and
paid hospital
workers...

The chorus of protest from trade unions and labour politicians which greeted Mr Patrick Jenkins's recently issued guidelines to health authorities lines to health authorities about the handling of industrial disputes, highlights what is likely to become one of the thorniest political issues in the next few years, the role of volunteers in the event of the disruption of health and social services by union action.

Traditionally, voluntary action in the health and social services has not been a very contentious issue in Britain. There has been a general consensus that, like religion and morality, it is generally a good thing.

In the last year both major political parties have convened high-level study groups to examine ways in which voluntary action in the community might be encouraged. The Labour group, chaired by Mr Stanley Orme, the shadow spokesman on health and social services, was set up on the direct initiative of Mr Callaghan, who was concerned at the apparent decline of the values of fraternity and good neighbourliness in Britain.

The Conservative group, under Mrs Linda Chalker, was inspired by the self-help, voluntary ethic of Mrs Thatcher.

Although neither party has made its group's report public, both seem to have come up with remarkably similar conclusions about the growing importance of the voluntary sector at a time of ill growth in statutory services and the need for volunteers to be seen as complementary to rather than a substitute for professional workers in the fields of health, education and welfare.

Two events have shattered this consensus, however. The first was the hospital workers' strike last February and the second was the election of a Conservative Government which brought deep-seated Labour fears about the dismantling of the welfare state and its replacement by greater reliance on volunteers.

The debate over the hospital workers' strike began after Mr David Ennals, the then Secretary of State for Health, had said that hospitals should recruit volunteers before calling in volunteers. Although he subsequently changed his position, Mr Ennals's initial statement was strongly condemned by the

Conservatives. At such a time, it would be the duty of government to harness this spirit of reserve to the service of our people.

It is in the spirit of this sentiment that Mr Patrick Jenkins's new guidelines are conceived. They lay down that health authorities "should, if they feel it necessary during a dispute, make such use of volunteers as they think fit" and "should consider now how they can tap the help the general public are usually and spontaneously prepared to offer in response to the needs of sick people. Ministers will support any authority which makes use of volunteers during industrial action".

The response of the trade unions and Labour movement to this approach was predictable. Behind it lie deep-seated suspicions of volunteering which is still associated in many minds with patronizing charity and distant folk memories of the sort of ride's class volunteers played in breaking the General Strike of 1926.

There is also a genuine fear that the use of volunteers as strike breakers will jeopardize already fragile relationships of mutual trust which have been painstakingly built up between volunteers and paid workers in hospitals and social services over the years. Mr Orme has said: "If Mrs Thatcher puts the flag up and marches in front of volunteers, then we will certainly oppose her because she will do countless damage for the future."

On the other side, there is a strong feeling, not just among Conservatives, that the events of last winter should not be allowed to recur in a civilized society and that if normal services to the sick and disabled are withdrawn, and volunteers are ready and able to provide it, they should be encouraged to do so.

Already, in the recent dispute at Charing Cross Hospital, doctors and nurses have shown where they stand. It will be impossible for voluntary bodies and individual volunteers to remain above this particular political battle themselves for much longer. Sooner or later, they too will have to take the decision as to where they stand.

Ian Bradley

The rift grows between US blacks and Jews

The event which impinged most forcefully on the collective consciousness of American Jewry in 1979 was undoubtedly the departure last summer of Mr Andrew Young from his post as United States Ambassador to the United Nations. Most of the articulate leaders of the American black saw it as the victimization of their hero by the influential Jews and an already simmering conflict between the two minority groups boiled over.

Since his appointment by President Carter, Andrew Young's forays into foreign affairs had frequently embarrassed his mentor. In a comment on the Russian treatment of dissidents, Mr Young earned a rebuke for his statement that America also held political prisoners. He had freely expounded a "black perspective" which often clashed with the declared policies of the administration of which he was a member. This perspective charged the United States with responsibility for the refugee problem in Indochina, proposed the ending of the American

economic embargo of Cuba and challenged aspects of the government's missile programme.

The last straw for Mr Carter was Mr Young's unauthorized meeting with a representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization of which he gave a misleading account to the State Department when it came to light. The Israeli Ambassador in Washington protested that it violated an agreement between their two governments. The State Department was no less indignant and Mr Young was asked to go.

As it happened, the resignation was announced while the annual meeting was taking place of Mr Young's own group, the Southern Church Leadership Conference. In informing the assembly of the event, an official added that "the perception on the street is that the Jews did this to Andy Young".

With very few exceptions, that indeed was the perception of black leaders. One of them, the Rev Jesse Jackson, President of PUSH (People United to Save Humanity) declared

that the resignation was a capitulation to "our former allies, the American Jewish community".

The issue was not whether Mr Young was right or wrong, whether Mr Carter had acted properly or not or even whether it was true that "the Jews did this". The black assumed it was so and presumably still do, notwithstanding the President's categorical assurance that the allegation was "absolutely and totally false".

For Jesse Jackson and his colleagues, the enforced resignation was another stage in a continuing dispute between blacks and Jews for, as he explained, "when there wasn't much decency in society, Jews were willing to share decency. The conflict began when we started our quest for power. Jews were willing to share but not power".

Mr Jackson's reference to the willingness of Jews to share decency must have been intended to refer to the post-war

perverse areas of university admission, jobs and promotion. While Jews favoured affirmative action, they strongly objected to the preferential granting to blacks of fixed quotas in schools or on jobs. For the Jews, who had in the recent past suffered from them, the principle of quotas was anathema.

The Bakke case decided by the Supreme Court in June 1978 was about the constitutionality of a preferential quota for blacks at a medical school. All the Jewish organizations were

on one side with the blacks on the other, a collision of interests which marked the de facto end of the coalition though Jewish and black leaders tried desperately to emphasize the "shared goals that still unite and bind us together".

The blacks began to demand the ten cents. New organizations like the SNCC (Student Nonviolent Co-ordinating Committee) and the Black Panthers were no longer claiming black rights; they were asserting black power. Not only were their Jewish supporters alienated by this militancy, they were also repelled by the anti-Jewish views expressed by some of the new radical black leaders like Howard Cruse, Malcolm X and LeRoi Jones.

A recent study of antisemitism in America concludes that about 15 per cent more blacks than whites hold negative images of Jews in the economic context and that black antisemitism is growing in contrast to its general decline in the United States of America since the war. This phenomenon is generally attributed to the upward mobility of both groups. Blacks moved into residential areas vacated by Jews who, however, continued to own the houses and the shops. The blacks became the tenants and the customers, groups not notoriously well disposed to landlords and shopkeepers.

That growing resentment was aggravated by the Jewish reaction to black requests for preferential treatment. In the sixties and seventies, blacks were saying that they could not now, after three centuries of oppression, be expected to compete on equal terms and that their progress could only be assured if they were now given some preference in the com-

unity. The existing two areas of conflict, economic antagonism and preferential treatment, the Andy Young resignation has added a third—the identification of the most vigorous of the black leaders with the cause of the Palestinians. They are seen as the oppressed while Israel and the Jews (the two are not distinguished) are placed in the role of the oppressors.

One of the few remaining moderate black leaders, Vernon E. Jordan Junior, President of the National Urban League, has warned that "black-Jewish relations should not be endangered by ill-considered flirtations with terrorist groups devoted to the extermination of Israel" and it is not clear how far the militancy of the leadership has permeated to the rank and file for, on the local level, black and Jewish organizations continue to work together on common causes.

But American Jews and their leaders have no illusions. They have been shocked by the intensity of the anti-Jewish feeling among blacks which the Young affair has released. How to deal with it will be the top item on their agenda for 1980.

William Frankel

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AUSTIN REED

مكتبة الأعلى

The operatic adventures of Harry...

The mere fact of being Hungarian must be very satisfying. It is so complete that it leaves a comfortably tiny space to try and be other things elsewhere: cost a lifetime's alienation: a doctor, journalist, a scientist, even a sports score board factory manager (the Hungarians are making them for the Moscow Olympics); "I think Hungarian, and so I am"; that is really the message of that most gracious of patriotic operas, Kodaly's *Harry Janos*; as everybody knows, it is bad but written by an Englishman or a German or a Frenchman, it would have been called *James Harry* because that is the real order of Christian name and surname of the hero whose adventures half Budapest tried to see once again during the holidays as a type of happy halfway house between *Fidelio* and the pantomime, and most of them came from streets called "Bartok Bela Utca" or "Liszt Ferenc Utca" and saw their leader in Kadar Janos as a reminder that Hungarians write their names backwards.

Just look at the programme and you have it all: the first adventure of Harry, or Janos takes place at a border-post where the sun always shines and life is beautiful on the Hungarian side of the red and white post while across the frontier, towards Russia obviously, snow and ice and inhumanity dominate. Personally, I have a very fond relationship with this opera. It has come to mean to me what I suppose it means to Hungarians, that is the best of Eastern Europe. I last saw it in 1976 in East Berlin. I was there for the conference of European Communist parties when Eurocommunism was at the height of its shortened vogue. Putting first things first, I telephoned the Komische

Oper to find out what they were performing. They said they were reviving the late great Walter Felsenstein's *Carmen*. I asked them to put a seat aside for me as I would like to see it again for old times' sake. The Communists at the conference talked on and, sensing that the curtain must be about rising, I telephoned once again to the opera-house. "You are really in luck," they said. "The soprano is ill. We cannot do *Carmen* and we are trying to assemble the cast for *Harry Janos*. Which in any case will interest you much more, because it is rarer but the start will be at least an hour late." I arrived just as the curtain was going up on *a*, for me, quite new staging by Felsenstein.

At the box-office they said: "We have kept your ticket for you. Are you sure to enjoy it? Come along to your seat". Quite apart from the charm of Janos, and the enthusiasm of a packed audience, I thought about what chances I, an unknown foreigner, would have had of persuading the Covent Garden booking office to keep a ticket for me, or the Rome Opera House for that matter, unless I spoke to the superintendent himself. I framed their poster showing Harry's splendid adventures between truth and elaboration which, together, as he tells us, amount to a new truth. In Budapest this week, the production was less complicated than Felsenstein's but getting more emotional.

Throughout the opera, Janos never forgets his origins and so the producer keeps an idealized painting of the hero's hometown up among the clouds in every stage-picture. And for the new year, the party newspaper did much the same with a huge cartoon entitled "Our happy little village". Hungary is shown as a kind of reserve of plenty in the bottom right hand corner and, in the rest of the world, there are traffic jams, the Mafia, terrorism, drug addiction, malnutrition, when they have rather than expect any increase in standards.

"I believe she's marrying him for his teeth..."



bakroberies, the Ku Klux Klan, the mafios, the horror unimaginable in the intricate detail of the style of a didactic painting by Hieronymus Bosch. The Hungarian scene is comfortable as the family eats and drinks in easy chairs and even the dog is replete. Though a minister is telling them on television that harder times are on the way.

This is a reminder that Hungary's healthy foreign trade balanced started to go away in 1974 with the rise in oil prices, and now the country is feeling the effects of a nine per cent price rise, largely in foodstuffs. One of the current jokes is that Hungary's national day is a religious feast: to which the Government's reply was that they would declare 1980 a whole year of lent. Undoubtedly the principal Hungarian consideration for this year will be to try and maintain what they have rather than expect any increase in standards.

Being quintessentially Hungarian inevitably leads to jokes about other people and a Polish Pope stimulates them in a seriously humorous way. "What?", asks an official, "do you think Catholics call holy water now?" "Don't know. 'Eau de Pologne' of course, and this with an insistence on a lack of malice. Poland, they keep on saying, is the one country the Hungarians have never fought. And then the Jesuit joke which is harsher. The Pope has a vision of Christ in the Vatican gardens. He asks: "Lord, will there be married priests in my life-time?"

"No", says Jesus, "Not in your lifetime."

"Lord, will there be women-priests in my lifetime?"

"No, not in your lifetime."

"Lord, will there be another Polish Pope?"

"No", says Jesus, "in my lifetime."

Hungary suddenly gets dressed when the first snow falls. Budapest itself acquires a delicate elegance whereas the day before, bare under the sun, it was too heavy to be called elegant. At Eger, in the Bükk mountains, to the north-east, the first flakes outline the delicacy of the baroque buildings in

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STAMPEDE FOR GOLD

On Wednesday of this week the price of gold on the free market went up by more than the whole of its pre-1971 official price of \$35 an ounce. Yesterday it rose by almost twice that amount. Leaving out handling and storage charges, anyone who has held gold over the period between 1971 and last night will now be showing a capital gain of roughly 1,700 per cent. Even currency and bullion markets, jaded by years of seemingly continual and increasing instability, sense that something different in quality to past eruptions is in progress.

It must, on purely technical grounds, be likely that the price will fall back, perhaps quite sharply at some close date. The incentive to take profits of the order that have suddenly become available in so short a time will surely induce some to sell. However the nature of this market's explosion is different from speculative excesses in other financial markets. In this case much of the buying has as its motive a long-term move out of currencies into a less politically and economically vulnerable store of value. Gold "buying" from this motive will not suddenly become gold selling for that very reason.

This stampede to buy gold, however, is different from previous currency crises in another respect as well. When a national currency comes under unbearable pressure in the markets, the politicians, the Treasuries and the central banks involved are forced to recognise at least the symptoms of the problem and to take some "appropriate" action. Even with the dollar itself, in recent years the pressures have built to a stage where action was forced. An example was the general realignment of the dollar against other

currencies at the Smithsonian Institution negotiations in December, 1971.

In the present case, however, the rise in the price of gold itself is in relation to all currencies, though to some noticeably more than to others. The only immediate effect is that the free market value of the gold component of national gold and currency reserves is substantially increased. No direct pressure of crisis proportions is exerted directly on anyone. Politicians and monetary authorities as a result do not have an imperative spur to action.

Yet, as the postwar monetary system with its links between official institutions and private banks, begins visibly to crumble, it is essential that a coordinated plan of reform be instituted. Given the present fragmentation of leadership in the non-Communist world, it is unrealistic to think in terms of some grand new design, negotiated and agreed by all, comparable to the design of the post-1945 world monetary system negotiated largely by the Americans and ourselves at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, in 1944. There is no possibility to securing general enough acceptance of any overarching reform to make the endeavour worth the expense of political capital. The way forward will have to be largely by unilateral and bilateral action. These actions must, however, fit within a general and consistent framework of analysis.

The problem has two distinct aspects. There is first the role of dollars and other currencies as reserve assets. This is largely a dollar problem, simply because the dollar is by far the largest currency component of international reserves. If inflation

remains and intensifies generally in the 1980s, it will become accordingly a problem that goes wider than just the dollar. Meanwhile the flight from currencies is into gold.

The second aspect, however, concerns the dollar's role as a medium of exchange, lubricating the whole of the world's trade and capital movements. It is a function that for the foreseeable future can only be conducted through the dollar, for there is no other currency in international circulation in sufficient quantities to perform the essential task. The role of the dollar is thus a responsibility of the whole world and not just of the United States.

In principle the only solution to these problems is clear. There are too many dollars in circulation. The unwanted surplus must therefore be removed from the market. The capital markets themselves cannot perform this function. In particular they cannot when all the major national governments are simultaneously concerned to avoid the inflation of their domestic money supplies that follows inevitably from major dollar support operations by central banks in the foreign exchanges.

In some way holders of dollars have to be offered some reserve asset in terms and in the quantities sufficient to satisfy their current desire to diversify out of the dollar. The operation could be administered in any of a number of ways and under a number of different auspices. The most promising is probably a scheme handled by the major central banks. All that is certain is that further "benign neglect" of the issue is inflicting grave and lasting damage on the international economic system.

THE UNITED NATIONS' EMPTY CHAIR

It is unfortunate that at a time when the United Nations is being called upon to play a critical role in events in both Iran and Afghanistan it should be hampered by difficulties in making up the membership of the Security Council. For the first time in its history it has not been possible to reach agreement on new non-permanent members, and the result is that since the beginning of the year the Council has had only fourteen members instead of fifteen. The remaining seat, which belongs to the representative of the Latin American countries, is being contested by Cuba and Colombia, and neither has been able to muster the two-thirds majority in the General Assembly which is needed for election, in spite of no less than 148 ballots. A fresh attempt is to be made today. There are already signs that the Soviet Union may try to take advantage of the uncertainty that has been created by challenging the legal competence of the reduced Council to vote on Afghanistan.

The Soviet attitude should be seen for what it is, an attempt to grasp at a legal technicality at a time when it finds itself in great diplomatic difficulties. The fourteen-member Council has been functioning in a formal sense since January 1, without any challenges, and the view of Dr Eric Suy, the United Nations legal counsel, is that it has the power to make binding decisions

in the same way as if it had its full membership. Therefore, even if the Soviet Union tries to take advantage of the unprecedented situation, the response must be to press ahead with vital Security Council business while streamlining to solve the question of the Latin American seat as soon as possible. Some way can certainly be found, perhaps by agreement on a generally acceptable Latin American replacement for both Cuba and Colombia, such as Mexico, or by using a device which has broken similar deadlock in the past—having each of the two countries serve one year of the normal two-year term.

There is no question that, whatever its failings, the United Nations does have a unique and important role to play. It is regarded as particularly important by the non-aligned countries, and it is significant that the move to bring in the Soviet takeover of Afghanistan in the Security Council is being led by members of their group, particularly such Muslim countries as Pakistan and Bangladesh. Some thought was given at one point to the idea of bringing the issue up in the General Assembly, where there is no Soviet veto and where it was thought that the Americans might get a majority for some form of condemnation of the Soviet action. But the Security Council resolution directed against it.

When it comes to action rather than words, the capacity of the United Nations is more limited. There is no question that it has played an extremely important part in keeping the peace in some very volatile parts of the world—the Middle East, Kashmir, Cyprus—by sending in United Nations forces. But the imposition of sanctions on Rhodesia was hardly a great success, and there is bound to be scepticism about the effect of sanctions on the Iranian situation, even if the required majority can be attained in the Security Council. On the other hand the unanimous call by the Security Council last month for the immediate release of the American hostages in Tehran, and the subsequent setting of the January 7 deadline, have certainly added to the pressure on the Iranian situation, even if the

United Nations can be attained in the Security Council. On the other hand the unanimous call by the Security Council last month for the immediate release of the American hostages in Tehran, and the subsequent setting of the January 7 deadline, have certainly added to the pressure on the Iranian situation, even if the required majority can be attained in the Security Council. On the other hand the unanimous call by the Security Council last month for the immediate release of the American hostages in Tehran, and the subsequent setting of the January 7 deadline, have certainly added to the pressure on the Iranian situation, even if the required majority can be attained in the Security Council.

Search and entry powers

From Mr Thomas H. Band

Sir, I write as a solicitor (retired) of 41 years' standing and as a General Commissioner of Income Tax.

When it was decided in 1976 to strengthen the powers of the Inland Revenue in their task of assessing and collecting taxes lawfully due from citizens to the state there could be no objection in principle because, for technical reasons, their previous powers had become inadequate. But when I saw the proposal in the Finance Bill to break away entirely from the existing machinery and authorize an Inspector of Taxes to break into premises and seize anything he fancied with the authority only of his own Affidavit of Suspicion, rubber-stamped by a Justice of the Peace, I was appalled.

I wrote to the Attorney General (Mr Sam Silkin) to remind him that General Commissioners, carefully selected laymen appointed by the Lord Chancellor, existed to handle the various alterations which arise between Revenue and taxpayer: they sit in private and they already have certain powers to send for persons and papers. I recommended that their power should be enlarged and that they could order entry and search in suitable cases.

The Attorney General replied to say that he found my suggestion "interesting" and would refer it to a "Treasury Minister". It seems that the drafting process had gone so far that the Treasury could or would not change the brutal approach which they had adopted. All that happened was that two members of the Board of Inland Revenue were to make the Affidavit of Suspicion and the fist of a Circuit Judge was substituted for that of a Justice of the Peace. Now we have the totalitarian spectre of the Rossmoor proceedings (Law Report, December 14).

One of the Law Lords was naive enough to advise the public that the fist of a Crown Court Judge should be substituted for that of a Circuit Judge. Even if the fist of a Law Lord were substituted, it would rapidly become a clerical formality

unless, of course, he undertook to handle the case himself after the papers had been seized and examined and the tax assessments raised.

Let it be announced immediately how many Circuit Judges have refused search warrants when confronted with an Affidavit of Suspicion. And let the draftsmen of the Finance Bill, 1980, set to work at once so that the fiasco of 1976 is not repeated.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS H. BAND,
Friar Gate,
102 Tiddington Road,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire.

Legal training grants

From Mr Adrian Room

Sir, Mr J. H. Stevenson (December 31) doing so badly? I wish I earned £5 for every 40 minutes work I put in. Even with a 35-hour working week, that works out at £13,650 pa. Who needs a private income or a working wife in such a comfortable income bracket?

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN ROOM,
173 The Causeway,
Petersfield,
Hampshire.
December 31.

Insufficient jobs

From Mr Bernard Hamilton

Sir, Your leader "Taking the dole off the index" (December 20) seems more relevant to times past than to our present state of knowledge. The majority of this country's one and a half million unemployed are not so occupied because they have no financial incentive to get a job, but because there is a shortage of jobs.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD HAMILTON,
Furness College,
University of Lancaster,
Bairlings,
Lancashire.
December 30.

Aims of the PLO
From Mr J. Garnet

Sir, Mr Dominic Asquith (December 22) claims he is "entitled to take the view that the elimination of Zionism is not necessarily the same thing as the destruction of Israel".

He adds, how unfortunately, that "many of those who cite the National Charter give the impression that they have never bothered to read it with any care".

Before making such rash statements, Mr Asquith should have re-read "The Palestinian National Covenant". Its 33 Articles are all dedicated to the replacement of Israel with a "liberated" Palestine, which according to Article 1 is "an integral part of the Arab nation".

Article 19 states: "The partitioning of Palestine in 1947 and the establishment of Israel is fundamentally void, whatever name has elapsed."

The Palestinian Covenant makes perfectly clear that the PLO aim is to raise the Palestinian flag over the Knesset. The means of achieving

Arab rule is contained in Article 6 which decrees that only "Jews who were living permanently in Palestine" before the "Zionist invasion" in 1947 "will be considered Palestinians". This would disenfranchise the majority of Israel's Jews, including the 800,000 refugees from Arab countries who left dispossessed, their property confiscated when they became anomalies following the UN partition in 1947 of what remained of mandated Palestine.

Appropriately, the caption above Mr Asquith's letter reads: "Obstacles to peace in the Middle East".

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan

From Mr John L. Powell

Sir, The response of the West and particularly the United States to the Soviet invasion if not annexation of Afghanistan has been disturbingly vacuous and irresolute.

Notwithstanding the difficulties of anticipating the invasion, it was to be hoped that the art of crisis management had been developed to the point of devising in advance, for rapid implementation, policies with which to respond to a crisis of similar nature and magnitude.

Sporadic response in the form of threatening certain sanctions might have influenced Soviet action and the extent of the intervention.

If the lessons of the Afghan invasion are not learnt, South-West Asia would seem to offer the next dominoes of the 1980s.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN L. POWELL,
2 Crown Office Row,
The Temple, EC4.

January 2.

From Mr R. Dale Iymmu

Sir, The last two paragraphs of your excellent leader (January 2) are proving a little puzzling to my friends and me who, as Africans, can be described as being of the Third World.

A few months ago, France with technical assistance from the United States, sent troops to the over and overthrow. Mr Bolingo of the then Central African Empire, France still occupies and controls the country. As we recall, there was general approval of the French action in the Western press. Previous to that action, France and Belgium had sent in troops to Zaire and also France had been engaged for years in Chad, with the approval of the West.

When South Africa invaded Angola, a few years ago, it was then acclaimed in the Western press that it was acting as an instrument in the defence of Western interests.

The Soviet action in Afghanistan has rightly been condemned as contrary to all accepted international principles of law and conduct. But we had no such condemnation of France or South Africa when they violated the same principles.

Sir, Is this hypocrisy or plain dishonesty?

Again, Africans have for years been lectured about "bringing politics into sport" whenever the record books of South Africa is mentioned. Now we are told that Namibia is now considering a collective boycott of the Moscow Olympics. I suppose that some embittered philosophy may be spoiled to distinguish the two circumstances.

A little more honesty in world and national politics may yet be the salvation of mankind.

Yours faithfully,

R. DYLE IYMMU,
22 Gladys Road, NW6.

January 2.

From Mr Robert Tescian

Sir, How right Ray Whitney is in today's *The Times* (January 2).

But surely the International Olympic Committee should allow the Games to continue while banning the Russians from competing. Such a decision would either force the Russians to cancel the Games or give "Olympic Flu" to the whole of their team. Both alternatives might prove a little difficult to explain away to the Russian people, given even *Pravda's* skill at propaganda.

Yours faithfully,

ROBERT TESCIAN,
Reynolds Farm,
Hurst,
Nr Twyford,
Berkshire.

January 2.

Setting doctrinal limits

From the Reverend R. T. Beckwith

Sir, It has been stated and accepted rather too readily in the current correspondence in your columns that the Church of England has abandoned all attempt at doctrinal discipline. Though the Church of England is exceedingly slow and reluctant in taking action against clergy who violate their ordination vows in doctrinal matters (even in flagrant cases like those of bishops or professors of theology who deny the incarnation or the resurrection of our Lord), this is not the only indication of her attitude. If, in these days of unlimited tolerance, she fears more scandal from discrediting an offender than from the offence itself, who can wonder? Nevertheless, reluctance to cause offence is not the same thing as

One of your correspondents has interpreted the variety of options in the coming revision of Series 3 Holy Communion as evidence of doctrinal laxity. But myself the joint promulgator of that rite further points out that, if added, I should require your readers who did this in their terms of greater doctrinal seriousness, on the basis of an agreed statement of doctrine, and as a departure from the policy of deliberate ambiguity about doctrine previously followed in Series 3.

None of this bears directly on the case of King (whose denial of Papal infallibility the Church of England endorses) or of Schillebeeckx (whose sacramental teaching, if that is in question, has a decidedly reformed flavour), but it may help to set Rome's dealings with her dissenters in a less distorted ecumenical context.

Yours faithfully,
R. T. BECKWITH,
The Warden,
L'Arverne House,
131 Banbury Road,
Oxford.

Elected to Europe

From Mr Gerald Kaufman, MP for Ardwick (Labour)

Sir, You head a letter in your issue of December 27 as coming "from Mr Derek Prag, MEP".

The Act of the United Kingdom Parliament governing the election of persons to sit in the body in question is the European Assembly Election Act 1978. Its long title begins: "An Act to make provision for and in connection with the

election of representatives to the Assembly of the European Communities". Throughout the Act the persons to be elected are described as "representatives" and never as "Members" and the body to which they are to be elected as an "Assembly" and never as a "Parliament".

Ought not a representative at the European Assembly therefore to be referred to as an MEP?

Yours sincerely,

GERALD KAUFMAN,
House of Commons.

December 27.

In spite of falling standards in so many areas, we are still a democracy, and one must assume that we have the police force that we want, or, maybe, deserve.

Now refreshing it would be to see that today's figures caused an outcry, but most papers have not even carried the story.

Yours faithfully,

R. ANTHONY LESTER,
1b Oak Hill Avenue,
Hampstead, NW3.

December 22.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FUTURE OF THE BRITISH MOTOR INDUSTRY

From Dr D. W. Hughes

Sir, How disappointing that Sir Michael Edwards (January 2) is falling into the same trap as the architects of British Leyland, with all its troubles, Lord Stokes.

To criticise the consumer, who in his choice of motor car has opted in very many cases for what he considers to be the best value for his hard-earned net income, is no substitute whatever for demonstrably providing a truly competitive product. Even less does it sell motor cars outside the United Kingdom, where loyalty to the Union Jack plays no part in the decision-making process.

Such pitiful arguments are an indication that British Leyland now feels unable to provide what the customer is looking for; it might meet with more success by persuading the Government to make purchase of BL vehicles a tax-deductible allowance.

Yours faithfully,

JULIAN RIDSDALE
House of Commons
January 2

SOCIAL NEWS

Forthcoming
marriages

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend the laying-up of Admiral of the Fleet Earl Mountbatten of Burma's Garter banner in St George's Chapel, Windsor, on Friday, February 8, this year.

A memorial service for Jean Viscountess Foljambe will take place on Tuesday, January 22, at Holy Trinity, Bromley, Kent.

The Duke of Gloucester, as president, British Consultants Bureau, will attend a reception at Buckingham Palace on February 14, given by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh for winners of the Queen's Awards for Export and Technology.

Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, will attend the Fan Makers' company's election service and reception on February 27.

The Duke of Kent, president of the Royal Choral Society, will attend a concert at the Festival Hall on February 18.

Birthdays today

Major Sir Tatton Brinton, 64; Mr Alexander Chancellor, 49; Sir Thomas Fergus, 77; Sir Havelock Hudson, 61; Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Ian Clark-Hanson, 77; Sir Leslie Jocelyn, 72; Professor B. Josephson, 46; Sir Thomas Robinson, 84; Sir Edward Selkirk, QC, 74.

Today's engagements

Exhibition: The Shoe Show, 1790-1979, Institute of Contemporary Art, 12 Carlton House Terrace, 12-8.

Greek folk art: Horniman Museum, London Road, Forest Hill, 10-30-6.

Lambs, lives, cartoons, Lyric Theatre foyer, Hammersmith, all day.

A century of local transport: Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, 10-6.

Costume and fashion in book and print: V and A Museum, Cromwell Road, 10-5.50: Challenge of the chip, Science Museum, Exhibition Road, 10-5.50.

Winnipeg photographs from the 1979 British photographic competition: Kodak gallery, 246 High Holborn, 9-45.

For children: Children's Centre, where children can do quizzes, bark rubbings and drawings, and make models, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, 10-30-12.30-2.4.

Concert: Janet Hilton, clarinet, Ralph Kirshbaum, cello; Beethoven, Brahms, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, 7.45.

£50,000 grant to university for offshore projects

A grant of £50,000 to be continued annually for five years has been made by BP Petroleum Development to the Institute of Offshore Engineering at Heriot-Watt University.

The great will fund research into innovative topics arising from the institute's activities, which embrace marine science, environmental protection and monitoring, and measurement, safety and cost in offshore resource exploitation.

Discussions are to take place with the department to try to widen the principles.

Mr Hugh Jenkins, the trust's part-time director and a former Minister for the Arts, said yesterday that it was considering ways of encouraging financial aid for its work. "We are surviving on a hand-to-mouth basis, with no government funds," he said.

"We exist on about £7,000 a year and really need £15,000 to be got by." One idea was to encourage a form of membership.

Dinner
Lady Mayorress
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayorress entertained the following guests at dinner at the Mansion House yesterday:
The Queen's Lord Commissioner and Lady Froth, Lord and Lady Howard of Effingham, Lord and Lady Haywood, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Mervyn Williams, Mrs Florence of Hampton, Middlesex
Sir G. H. Willis, Canon and Mrs G. D. Penruddick and Mr and Mrs Ernest

Mr T. P. Boulton and Miss K. Little
The engagement is announced between Timothy Peter, eldest son of Canon and Mrs Peter Boulton, of Workshop Priory, Nottinghamshire, and Ruth Kathleen, daughter of Mr and Mrs L. W. Little, of Kidsgrove, Staffordshire.

Mr H. E. Ellerton and Miss A. H. Turner
The engagement is announced between Hugo Brooke, younger son of the late Captain John Ellerton, RN, and Mrs Ellerton, of Lower End Farm, Granborough, Nottinghamshire, and Anna Harriet, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. Turner, of The Coach House, School Lane, Welwyn, Hertfordshire.

Mr S. Harris and Miss F. Dillon
The engagement is announced between Simon Harris and Felicity Dillon. The marriage will take place quietly in London on February 8, 1980.

Mr C. J. A. Holroyd and Miss J. M. Carrow
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Holroyd, of Merrow, Guildford, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Carrow, of Hartley Wintney, Hampshire.

Mr C. O. B. Meade-King and Miss L. M. Pagnell
The engagement is announced between Michael Thomas, son of Mrs E. M. Ramseyer, and of the late Commander L. F. Ramseyer, DSC, of Northwood, Middlesex, and Lavina Cherry, only daughter of Professor James Calman, FRCS, FRCR, and Mrs Calman, of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

Mr G. R. Preston and Miss A. E. Gale
The engagement is announced between Geoffrey Robert, son of the late Colonel G. N. Preston and of Mrs W. N. Dastwood Lang and stepson of Mr W. N. Dastwood Lang, of Blenheim, Mortimer West End, Reading, Berkshire, and Angela Barbara, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter W. Gale of The Paddocks, Folliott, Harrogate.

Mr T. R. Scott and Miss L. M. Dyke
The engagement is announced between Thomas Rogers, elder son of Mr and Mrs Justin Scott, of Barton Turf, Norfolk, and Sarah Lesley, daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry Beaumont, of Sheringham, Norfolk.

Mr R. M. Tickell, RE and Miss A. C. Harden
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Mr R. J. Thornhill and Miss N. J. Dyke
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

■ Stock markets
FT Index 406.9, down 0.1.
FT Gilts 54.50, down 0.11.
■ Sterling
\$2.238, down 27 points. Index 70.5, up 0.3.
■ Dollar
Index 84.5, down 0.1.
■ Gold
\$630 an ounce, up \$61.5.
■ 3-month money
Inter-bank 16 15/16 to 17 1/16 Euro-£ 143 to 144.

IN BRIEF

Delegation of businessmen leave for Rhodesia

The first organized group of British businessmen to visit Southern Rhodesia since the lifting of sanctions leaves London today for a week-long "pathfinder mission" arranged by the Institute of Directors.

The six-strong delegation, led by Mr James Moortoff, member of the institute's council and chairman of Kodak, will examine the state of the Rhodesian economy and meet businessmen in the public and the private sectors.

The delegation will also meet the Governor, Lord Spence, and the leaders of the principal political parties. It will travel round the country to see mining, industrial and agricultural developments.

Leyland goes racing

Leyland Vehicles, the truck and bus arm of BL, is to co-sponsor a grand prix Formula One racing team in its 1980 sales drive. Unipart, BL's parts division, is also spending a reported £500,000 on Formula One racing sponsorship this year. The Leyland Vehicles link-up is with the British-based Williams racing team, which won five grands prix last year. Its other team sponsor is the Saudi Arabian airline, Saudia, and the cars will bear the Saudi-Leyland name.

Army savings plan

The Army has given its approval to a savings and investment package designed by brokers Stewart, Wrightson and Wilson & Co. The plan, which involves a single deduction from pay, includes investment in a building society and a medium and long term insurance policy. The money will principally be invested in Royal Insurance and Britannia Building Society. Individual financial advice can also be made available to any of the 160,000 soldiers who use the savings scheme.

Fewer days lost

A total of 563,000 days were lost through industrial disputes in November, far fewer than in the previous month or in the same month in 1978. But 1979 was firmly established as the worst post-war year as a result of the days lost in the engineering dispute in the autumn. A total of 27,744,000 days had been lost by the end of November, with 17 million losses in the engineering industry.

Unions recruit

Trade union membership rose by 266,000 in 1978 to 13,112,000, according to the Departmental Employment Gazette. About 71 per cent of union members were men. Between 1968 and 1978, union membership rose by 3 million while the number of unions fell by over a fifth.

Fairey expansion

Fairey Holdings, one of the National Enterprise Board subsidiaries which is rumoured to be up for disposal, has acquired the low-pressure filter manufacturing company, Arlon BV of Arnhem, for \$2m (£895,000) from the Chromaloy American Corporation.

UK oil flow cut

Oil production from the United Kingdom offshore fields fell from 1.6 million barrels in October to 1.5 million in November largely as a result of gas flaring restrictions placed on the Shell/Esso Brent field.

Recession fears force industry to cut back on investment

By David Blake

A growing awareness of the imminence of a deep recession is forcing British industry to revise downwards its plans for investment this year and next, according to figures published by the Department of Industry.

The cutback is expected to be particularly fierce in manufacturing, which is exposed to intense foreign competition made more difficult by the high value of the pound.

Distributive and service industries are still expecting a slight increase in the volume of their investment this year, compared to a drop of 5 to 10 per cent being forecast by manufacturers.

The figures come from the response to the latest of the Department of Industry's regular surveys of investment intentions for industry and they make much gloomier reading than previous surveys. The survey shows that investment during 1979 is likely to turn out about 3 per cent lower than in 1978.

The fall in investment during 1980 is expected to be very sharp in textiles, clothing leather and the motor industry. Engineering, including shipbuilding and metal manufacturing, and the miscellaneous manufacturing group expect only small falls.

Although indications for 1981 are at a preliminary stage, it looks likely that there will be a further fall next year below this year's level.

Even during the 1970s, which were a bad time for investment in manufacturing, there was never an occasion when investment fell three years in a row, so that indications are deeply depressing for the prospects for British industry trying to compete in world markets.

It is expected that investment this year will be 18 per cent below the peak level reached for a manufacturing back in 1970.

One of the most striking features of Britain's investment performance in the past 10 years has been the decline in

More jobs to go at Avon

By Richard Evans

Avon Rubber, the Wiltshire-based tyre group, is to make further cuts to its 8,000-strong workforce. During the past year it has reduced the number of employees at its Bridgend plant in South Wales from 550 to 450.

The forthcoming reductions will be spread over almost every activity of Avon Rubber. Mr Tony Mitchard, an executive director with the group, said last night: But we would not reveal how many jobs were at risk.

"I think we are doing what everybody in British industry is having to do in order to stay competitive. We have got to get more productivity from the people we have, of the same productivity from fewer."

"The situation is no different in Avon than it is in most of British industry. We do have a degree of overmanning, which with a strong pound cannot be afforded."

Mr Mitchard said the staff reductions would involve natural wastage and some redundancies. "I think it is going to be a sensible programme of reduction which will leave us in a better shape in 12 months' time."

"To quote figures," he added, "would not be the best thing to do".

Dalgety reported that acceptance had been received for its offers from holders of 91.7 per cent of the ordinary shares and 97.8 per cent of the preference capital.

Taking into account Spillers' shares already held, Dalgety now controls 94 per cent of Spillers' issued capital. Notices will be dispatched to enable Dalgety to buy compulsorily the remaining Spillers ordinary and preference shares under sec-

the share of total investment attributable to manufacturing.

In 1970, manufacturing accounted for 54 per cent of all investment. This year it is expected to account for only about 40 per cent, although the figures may give a slightly false impression as they do not include leased goods as being investment in manufacturing.

Falling investment and reductions in the levels of stockholding are expected by the Government to be a major part of industry's attempt to live with the consequences of recession during the coming year. The Treasury is forecasting a 2 per cent drop in total output for 1980 compared to 1979, the sharpest

drop in recent years.

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One of the most striking features of Britain's investment performance in the past 10 years has been the decline in

Dalgety now assured of capturing Spillers

By Peter Wainwright

Just about the last act in the long-drawn-out but unsuccessful struggle by chairman, Mr Michael Vernon, to keep the flour-to-pet-foods concern out of the reach of bidder Dalgety, was played out last night.

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Shell and BP sign up deals with Iran

By Nicholas Hirst
Energy Correspondent

Shell and British Petroleum have tied up nine-month deals to buy crude oil from Iran at \$30 a barrel, which is \$6 a barrel above moderate Saudi Arabia's price and 28 per cent above the final quarter price for 1979.

Neither company has received contracts for as much oil as it wished. The volumes agreed are less than 50 per cent of those of the second half of last year and are a fraction of the quantities available during the Shah's rule.

A BP spokesman said the

company was "disappointed" to receive only 125,000 barrels a day compared with the 365,000 in the final quarter of last year and the 450,000 barrels a day initially agreed with the new regime in April. In the first nine months of 1978 BP lifted 1.1m barrels a day from Iran.

Shell has been promised only 95,000 barrels a day compared with 185,000 barrels a day in the final quarter of 1979 and 200,000 barrels a day agreed in April.

The price of \$30 is made up of the official government selling price fixed by Iran during the Opec meeting in Caracas, Venezuela of \$28.50 and a pre-

mium element to produce an average of \$30 a barrel. This is a similar formula to that agreed with Japanese buyers, who, last year, are thought to have taken 455,000 barrels a day from Iran, equal to 10 per cent of Japanese imports.

Western governments will be pleased that Iran has proved unable to gain the reported demands of \$36 a barrel, although the price is among the highest being demanded by Opec countries since the Caracas meeting broke up.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, has made it plain to BP and Shell that the Government would be dis-

pleased if such a high price were paid.

Yesterday BP said that despite the disappointing quantity it hoped to satisfy all group affiliates' demands. But the further reduction in BP's crude oil supplies—adding to the loss of 100,000 barrels a day from Nigeria last August—must be a severe blow. BP has been negotiating a change in its agreement with the British National Oil Corporation to swap Middle East oil for the Government's \$1 per cent purchase entitlement of Forties crude.

Shell UK came closest to buying more oil on the spot market because of Government re-

strictions on production from the Brent field. Both BP and Shell are likely to have to buy increased spot quantities.

Where Iran will sell its oil remains uncertain. It is not selling to American groups in reaction to President Carter's embargo, and cannot sell all its oil to Japan. It may be looking for government to government deals or to the spot markets.

Mr Ali Akbar Moinfar, the Iranian oil minister, has said Iran intends to produce between 3 million and 3.5 million barrels a day in 1980, but Iran has not yet signed contracts for anything like that quantity.

How much a barrel? page 15

Reserves up £136m in December, despite undervaluation of gold

By John Whitmore

Britain's reserves of gold and foreign currency rose by \$302m (£136m) in December, reversing four months' decline that had largely reflected the relaxation and, finally, abolition of exchange controls.

Latest monthly figures show that during 1979 official holdings of gold and foreign currency have increased by over \$7,000m, from \$15,694m to \$22,719m.

But the figures alone can be misleading. On the one hand, they exaggerate the size of the inflows in the sense that some \$4,500m arose from a revaluation of gold, SDRs and other convertible currencies holdings at the end of March. On the other hand, the year-end figure for the reserves clearly understates their underlying value—the \$178 an ounce March revaluation of gold holdings is now well adrift. Revaluation at the present gold price would lift the value of reserves to over \$30,000m.

Official policy is to revalue the gold holding annually on the basis of average market prices in the three months to the end of March, less 25 per cent.

Even though this spring's revaluation looks likely to boost reserves appreciably, our holdings of gold are less than many

other countries. They are less than a tenth of America's, and less than a quarter of the official holdings of Switzerland, France, Germany and Italy.

There has been good overseas demand for sterling for much of the year. Since the spring, however, official policy has been to limit intervention in the foreign exchange market to "smoothing" operations, although there was considerable intervention to hold the rate down during July.

Authorities also intervened last month as sterling met fresh overseas demand. The underlying inflow over the month was \$493m (after allowing for the net repayment of public sector borrowings made under the exchange cover scheme of \$70m and a capital repayment on long-term North American loans of \$121m).

Overseas demand for sterling during the year has been on the increase, acting as a counter to the large outflows on the trade account. Overseas investors have been attracted to sterling as a reserve currency and because of the high level of interest rates that have prevailed in the United Kingdom for much of the year.

In the year ahead, the Government is to repay £1,800m of overseas currency borrowing.

Table, page 16

Yesterdays morning's jump in the price of gold is chalked up in the office of a London bullion dealer.

Mining and metal shares reap benefit

By Peter Wainwright

The latest surge in bullion fuelled a fresh flight into gold and other metal shares yesterday. Even the poorest miners are profitable now if the new gold price holds. But in New York bullion began to ease, though it did so late to influence

overseas prices here. The Marble Arch branch of Barclays Bank, the only bank in Britain where sovereigns can be bought over the counter, has sold more than 1,000 of the coins in two days and ran out of them at one stage yesterday.

Before the bank's gold price fixing session the 22 carat coin was selling for \$69.20 in the morning. By the afternoon, when gold had reached \$63.40 an ounce, the coin was fetching £78.95.

Bullions started selling the gold sovereign at the branch on December 11, when the price was \$56, and since then has sold 3,000. Yesterday queues formed and some people were reported to be buying up to 50 coins at a time.

A bank spokesman said:

"The rush for sovereigns over the last two days has been unprecedented."

The National Health Service scale of fees was fixed until October but the new rate would be made retrospective in April.

A spokesman said: "Some must hope the new rate takes account not just of the soaring cost of gold but also silver, which was used in the amalgam for fillings."

The British Dental Association said yesterday that many dentists were becoming increasingly concerned about the rise in gold prices because of the gold content of crowns.

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Small investors lead an 'unprecedented' rush for gold coins

By Craig Seton

Thousands of gold sovereigns and South African Krugerrands on Monday sold out as small investors cash in on the surge in the price of gold.

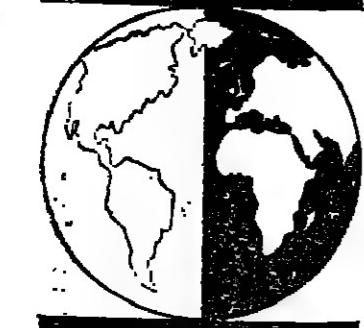
A spokesman said: "We have had a very big demand for them and obviously it looks as though gold can go higher."

Another dealer said the ordinary investor was being tempted by the idea of quick profits but "somebody is going to get his fingers burned sooner or later".

Gold jewellers expect their prices will have to rise within a few months to take account of the increased costs of pure gold in jewellery. One retailer said he fixed his prices once a year and it meant many good bargains for the clever shopper.

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Italian TUC approves strike rules

By Patricia Tisdall
Management Correspondent

Although management organizations are against fringe benefits in principle, most are not prepared to see them ended yet. This is the main message contained in a flood of more than 200 submissions sent to the Inland Revenue in answer to its proposals to reduce tax concessions on company cars.

This week saw the closing date for responses to the Inland Revenue's suggested changes, which are said to have far-reaching implications for the motor industry as well as for managers since about 70 per cent of all new cars sold in Britain are bought by companies.

A possible consequence according to the Institute of Sales Management, would be to force heavy users such as sales executives to buy their own cars and charge their employers for business use. This could result both in fewer new car sales and a lower proportion of British-made purchases.

Modifications suggested by the Revenue concentrate on company cars because, if pensions are excluded, these account for about 80 per cent of all fringe benefits.

The most contentious of the proposed changes is the abolition of the £3,500 salary threshold below which benefits

escape tax altogether. Other proposals are to raise the scale at which cars are valued for tax purposes to "a realistic level" and to tax any petrol and oil provided free by employers for private use at the same rate as cars.

A fourth change proposed is to index-link the value of more expensive cars but to retain the present system of grading cheaper cars by engine size.

The Revenue's case for altering the system is that at present it discriminates in favour of taxpayers who have private use of company cars, those who, for instance, have a tax advantage over their colleagues. The problem is in making a fair assessment of the benefit and drawing up a system which can easily be administered.

Companies argue, however, that there have not yet been sufficient cuts in income tax to counterbalance the effects of the proposed changes.

Mr Walter Goldsmith, director-general of the Institute of Directors, calculates that if the plan was put into effect at once it would cost the man earning £10,000 a year with a company car an extra £114 a year.

There was a quite wide divergence between various organizations on the detail of the proposals.

UK's output record attacked

By David Blake

A searing attack on Britain's "catastrophic performance" in the international productivity stakes is launched in a pamphlet by Mr Graham Hutton, the economist, published today by the Institute of Economic Affairs.

In a revised version of his recent Wincent Memorial Lecture, Mr Hutton blames unions, Luddism, the growth of the state and spineless management for Britain's performance, which have resulted in our declining from second place in 1953 to twentieth in the list of the 24 leading industrial nations.

Top of his list of contributors to our problems are the trade unions, whom he blames for cutting back profitability and leading to the decline of manufacturing industry. Unions, he says, have been given extraordinary rights to usurp the proper functions of management. But he also asserts that managers, like the public and politicians, have not been merely spineless but "apathetic, ignorant, complacent and cushioned by governments".

In spite of his gloomy dia-

Employment and Productivity
Total economy, percentage changes, seasonally adjusted at annual rates

	Average		From previous year			From previous half-year			
	1962-73	1978*	1973	1979	1978	I	II	1979	II
United States									
Employment	2.2	2.3	3.5	4.2	2.8	4.7	3.4	3.1	2.1
GDP/employment	1.3	0.1	1.3	-0.2	0	-1.8	1.7	-1.2	1.2
Japan									
Employment	1.4	0.6	1.3	1.2	1	1.7	0.4	1.2	1.1
GDP/employment	3.7	3.9	4.0	4.3	4.5	5.4	3.0	5	4
Germany									
Employment	0	-1.1	-0.2	0.3	1	0.8	0.2	1.1	1.1
GDP/employment	4.6	3.1	2.7	3.1	3.2	3.8	4.4	2.4	3.1
France									
Employment	0.9	0.1	0.6	0.2	1	0.4	0.4	0	1
GDP/employment	4.8	2.7	2.4	3.1	2.1	3.4	2.4	3.2	2.1
United Kingdom									
Employment	-0.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	1	0.4	0.4	0	-0.1
GDP/employment	3.0	0.3	0.6	2.1	1	1.8	2.4	-2.2	3.2
Canada									
Employment	3.3	2.8	1.8	3.3	3.1	3.8	3.0	3	11
GDP/employment	2.4	0.5	0.8	0	1	0.4	-0.7	0	13
Italy									
Employment	-0.6	1.0	1.0	0.5	1	2.2	1.0	1	1
GDP/employment	5.4	1.5	1.0	1.9	3.4	1.5	3.6	4	2.1

* Forecast values for 1979. † Great Britain, employees only. ‡ Based on GDP growth, excluding the contribution from North Sea Oil.

In a table included in the pamphlet Mr Burton shows how employment and productivity have fared in recent years. "Whatever Happened to Productivity?", 16th Wincent Memorial Lecture, by Graham Hutton, IEA Occasional Paper 56, IEA, 2 Lord North Street, London, SW1.

Epoxy has been struggling for a number of years. It was bought by Booker McConnell in 1976, and a new management team was recruited. Substantial losses were made in 1977 and 1978.

The British Institute of Management, after consultation with its own members and those of the affiliated Institution of Industrial Managers, considers that the income threshold should be abolished.

But the Confederation of British Industry says that it should be retained and adapted to reflect the general increase in salaries because the people affected are likely to be those who use their cars almost entirely for business purposes.

The Inland Revenue estimates that of a total of between 1.5 and two million company cars in use at present slightly less than 500,000 are provided for higher-paid executives and directors and at least a million escape tax because they are supplied to people earning less than £8,500.

A suggestion from the Freight Transport Association is for a combination of salary and mileage to be used to distinguish between cars which are "essential business tools" and those which are "perks".

Before the 1976 Finance Bill mileage was the main method of separating business from private use. But this required individuals to negotiate their own figures with the Revenue and proved difficult to administer.

Engineering company to close

By Ronald Kershaw

A Leeds engineering company which has repeatedly told its 260 workforce that action preventing it making a profit would eventually lead to closure is to close soon. The decision follows a strike of 160 engineering workers which started on December 13.

The company, Epoxy, which makes hydraulic jacks for the transport industry, is part of Booker McConnell. Mr David Oxley, managing director, said the company had offered a pay increase of 16 per cent, made up of 6 per cent on general rates and 10 per cent on an extension of a productivity scheme, which would have given skilled workers a weekly wage of about £111 without overtime.

The offer was rejected by the strikers, and on December 31 the company announced it had decided to accept the men's repudiation of their contracts of employment.

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Stock Exchange Prices

Strong rally after hours

ACCOUNT DAYS : Dealings Began, Dec 28. Dealings End, Jan 11. 5 Contango Day, Jan 14. Settlement Day, Jan 21

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

John Foord

plant and machinery valuers

plant and machinery valuers

1979 % Last Stock	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	Gross Div	Div Yld	P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chg per P.E.	Gross Div	Div Yld	P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chg per P.E.	Gross Div	Div Yld	P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chg per P.E.	Gross Div	Div Yld	P/E	1979/80 High Low Company	Price Chg per P.E.	Gross Div	Div Yld	P/E			
BRITISH FUNDS																														
954 Freesia 1980 954	9.151	-12.300			85	2.5	11	64	110	7	4.98	8.3	32	85	2.5	4.3	11.6	10.3	226	300	2.5	17.1	7.7	226	300	2.5	12.2	3.3		
1579 Freesia 1980 974	9.174	-12.309	A	B	117	-1	180	8.3	76	102	111	Darley & Neva	112	-1	7.1	5.3	49	51	6.7	14.6	52	53	6.7	14.6	52	145	154	6.7	14.6	5.2
2771 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AC Cars	42	117	-1	97	1.6	7.6	124	104	Dats Corp	104	-1	7.8	6.8	42	45	10.0	11.4	11.2	231	167	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20114 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20557 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20558 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20559 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20560 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20561 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20562 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20563 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20564 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20565 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20566 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20567 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20568 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20569 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20570 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20571 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20572 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20573 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20574 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20575 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20576 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20577 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20578 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20579 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20580 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5	3.5				
20581 Freesia 1980 974	9.180	-12.309	AG Research	43	117	-1	41	1.1	17.1	102	104	Davies Ind	102	-1	12.0	12.4	8.6	8.6	125	167	SKF 'B'	215	13	5.5	9.5					

Prices on this page are now supplied by Exchange Telegraph's Epic system and are the last prices available from London stock market dealers yesterday evening. Various indices produced by The Times, including the index of 150 industrial stocks, are being reviewed and recalculated to cover the period of non-publi-

PERSONAL CHOICE



Malcolm Stoddard as Charles Darwin (above) and (below). With him, in the lower photograph, is Mary Tamm.



A re-launching on BEC Television tonight for three major sporting events where skill (which one takes for granted in any case) almost takes second place to the engaging personality of the contestants. Pot Black 80 (BBC 2, 9.00), in which the use of the close-up is triumphantly vindicated, opens its new series with two Welsh wizards playing each other, the reigning Pot Black champion Ray Reardon, and the world champion, Terry Griffiths. Cunning men with the cue, both of them, but the audience's darlings International Pro-Celebrity Golf (BBC 2, 9.25) has an injection of show business which pleases those of us who understand but little of the game's subtleties, and it is made even more watchable by the off-the-cuff humour of Lee Trevino and infinitely more intelligible by the relaxed commentary of Peter Alliss. As for The Superstars (BBC 1, 7.30), the fun lies in seeing masters of one sport maintaining their composure when they are exposed as mere jacks at another.

I am constantly being asked what has happened to the actor who played Charles Darwin in the memorable series about the voyage of the Beagle. Malcolm Stoddard has a fine, strong "period" face which looked splendid behind whiskers (see photograph above). Was it possible that it had been on view post-Darwin and that we had not recognized it clean shaven? Tonight (BBC 1, 9.25) you can renew your acquaintance with Mr Stoddard as he travels not to the far-off Galapagos Islands but to Spain, where terrorists have sprited his wife. The unfamiliar 1980 face and hair style of Mr Stoddard (above) should prove to be only a minor stumbling block in the way of our full enjoyment of Jack Geroni's three-part thriller.

The veteran journalist James Cameron is just the man to tell the story of The Pink 'Un (Radio 4, 11.05 am), which tells how The Sporting Times reflected the racier aspects of Victorian and Edwardian life... Dorothy Tutin, a notable Viola in her younger days, provides the preface (Radio 4, 8.10 pm) to next Sunday's BBC television production of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night in which Felicity Kendal plays Viola... Rachmaninov wanted the Philadelphia Orchestra under Ormandy to give the first performance of his Symphonic Dances. He got his way, and you can hear this historic 1940 recording tonight (Radio 3, 11.00).

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SANGER-JONES.—On December 2nd, 1979, at Jane Street Pre-
mises, London, a son John

GROWTH.—On December 10th in
the Royal Hospital, Chelsea,
Simon Wynyard Tressenham

BUTCHER.—At Princess Mary's Maternity
Hospital, London NW1, to
John (late) and Linda (née
Carter) Jackson, a son William

CARLTON.—On December 1st, 1979,
at St. John's and John

DOWDIE.—On January 1st, 1980,
at St. Paul's Church, London, Len-
nie, wife of John Dowdie, and
their daughter Louise

FLYNN.—On November 16th in
St. George's Church, London SW1,
to Wendy and Greg—

HAWKINS.—On January 2nd, 1980,
at St. James' Church, London SW1,
to Brian and Clodagh—

HIGGINS.—Her husband, Thomas

HODGSON.—On December 27th, 1979,
at Worcester, to Jennifer and Mark

GEY.—In New Year's Day, to
Elizabeth (née Norton) and
John Gey, a son Thomas and
daughter Louise

JACKSON.—On December 27th, 1979,
at St. Paul's Church, London SW1,
to Thomas and Isabell—

KELLY.—On December 27th, 1979,
at Worcester, to Jennifer and Mark

LEWIS.—On January 1st, 1980,
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to Bob and Linda—

MCNAUL.—On December 27th, 1979,
at St. Paul's Church, London SW1,
to David and Linda—

MORRISON.—On December 27th, 1979,
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to John and Linda—

ROBERT.—On December 27th, 1979,
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